

Mexico-Japan Exchange Program for the Strategic Global Partnership

Information for applicants

1. Course Title

Genetic Resources

2. Name of Mexican Institution:

National Forestry, Crops and Livestock Research Institute (INIFAP)

3. Brief Profile of the Institution

INIFAP is an institution of science and technology, with leadership and with national and international recognition for its capability to respond to demands in knowledge and technological innovations in the agricultural, livestock and forestry sector. For the development of research activities, INIFAP is organized in 8 Regional Research Centers, which are in charge of the 38 Experimental Stations located along the Mexican Republic.

CNRG (National Genetic Resources Center) as a part of INIFAP has the responsibility to safeguard the genetic resources important for food, agriculture and environment. CNRG has modern facilities and last generation equipment for adequate evaluation, characterization, processing and long-term preservation of Agricultural, Forestry, Livestock, Aquatic and Microbial genetic resources.

4. Course dates:

From November 18th to December 4th, 2015

5. Field of the Training Program:

Evaluation, Documentation, characterization, process and preservation of phylogenetic, zoogenetic and microbial genetic resources.

6. Course Objective:

To acquire basic knowledge and specific concepts on the main laboratory techniques performed in a germplasm bank, in its activities related with germplasm “*ex situ*” preservation.

7. Course capacity

Maximum four (4) participants.

8. Tentative Course Programe

- Visit to the National Seed Inspection and Certification Service (SNICS)
- Lectures and lab activities at the Orthodox seeds laboratory at CNRG
- Lectures and lab activities at the “*in vitro*” culture of plant tissues laboratory, CNRG
- Lectures and lab activities at the DNA and Genomics laboratory, CNRG
- Lectures and activities at the zoogenetic resources laboratory, CNRG
- Lectures and activities at the microbial genetic resources laboratory, CNRG
- INIFAP genetic resources program, at Rosario Izapa Research Station
- Practice on field germplasm collection at Rosario Izapa Research Station
- Lecture on germplasm preservation methods (“*in situ*”, “*ex situ*”)
- Germplasm characterization Lectures and practices at Rosario Izapa Research Station
- “*In situ*” preservation, participative improvement and communitarian germplasm banks in local crops at Oaxaca State
- Visit to Oaxaca producers market

9. Course Location

The course will take place at different research centers of INIFAP located in the States of Jalisco, Chiapas and Oaxaca. The research centers have offices, greenhouses, growth chambers, vegetable fields, and germplasm banks. There are researchers including, agronomist, plant physiologists, entomologists, plant pathologists, agricultural economist, hydrologists, etc.

10. Trainees profile (academic, professional, linguistic, others)

Academic Background	The course is suited to late phase Master students, Ph.D. students as well as PhD's, researchers, government officials, and extension faculty with a strong background in biological sciences, genetics and chemistry.
Work Experience	Related to agronomic and livestock areas
Years of Experience	At least two (2) years
Language Proficiency	All participants need to be competent in English English Scores: TOEIC: 700 pts TOEFL PBT: 500 TOEFL IBT: 90 IELTS: 6

11. Dress code

Casual, comfortable to visit fields, light jacket.