

JENESYS2015 Inbound program (SAARC, Theme: Environment) Program Report

1. Program Overview

Under “Japan’s Friendship Ties Program”, 109 university students and adults from 8 SAARC Countries who are interested in environment visited Japan. During the 8 days program from March 7 to March 14, the participants studied Japanese government, society, history, culture, technology, environment and much more. The participants aim to promote Japan through mediums such as SNS.

2. Participating Countries and Number of Participants

Afghanistan : 12, Bangladesh : 12, Bhutan : 12, India : 28, Maldives: 11, Nepal : 10, Pakistan : 12, Sri Lanka : 12 Total 109

3. Prefectures Visited

Tokyo, Chiba and Fukushima

4. Program Schedule

March	7 (Mon)	Arrival at Narita International Airport 【Cutting Edge Technology】 National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation (Miraikan)
March	8 (Tue)	【Orientation】 【School Exchange】 Toyama High School 【Disaster Prevention】 Tachikawa Disaster Prevention Center
March	9 (Wed)	【Lecture on Japanese Culture／Key Note Lecture】 * Group Fukushima 【Environment】 Shibaura Water Reclamation Center Move to Fukushima by Shinkansen * Group Chiba (Group D) Move to Chiba by bus 【Courtesy Call】 Mayor of Kamogawa city 【Lecture】 Disaster Prevention and Environment
March	10 (Thu) ~ March 13 (Sun)	* Fukushima (Group A,B,C) 【Introduction of the Region】 Minamiyama Kanko 【Environment】 Biomass boiler, Renewable energy by utilizing snow 【Historical Landmark】 Tsuruga Castle 【Cultural Experience】 Akabeko painting (traditional toy of red cow)

【Home stay】 【Workshop】

* Chiba (Group D)

【Environment/Lecture】 Kamogawa Sea World, Certified as one of the best industrial waste trader by Ministry of Environment

【Cultural Experience】 Tea Ceremony, Kimono Wearing

【Farm Experience】 Strawberry Picking, Oyama Senmaida

【Home stay】 【Workshop】

March 14 (Mon) Move to Tokyo

【Environment】 Pasona Urban Farm

【Environment/Cutting-edge Technology】 Kimitsu Plant, Nippon Steel & Sumitomo Metal Co.

【Reporting Session】

March 15(Tue) Departure from Narita International Airport

5. Program Photos

Photos of Group A/B/C



3/8 School Exchange : Toyama High School (Tokyo)



3/9 Lecture on Japanese Culture／Key Note Lecture (Tokyo)



3/9 Environment : Shibaura Water Reclamation Center (Tokyo)



3/10 Introduction of the Region : Minamiyama Kanko (Minamiaizu Town)



3/10 Environment : Biomass boiler, Renewable energy by utilizing snow (Minamiaizu Town)



3/11 Cultural Experience : Akabeko painting (traditional toy of red cow) (Aizuwakamatsu city)



3/12 Home stay (Minamiaizu Town)



3/14 Environment : Pasona Urban Farm (Tokyo)

Photos of Group D



3/8 Orientation (Tokyo)



3/8 Disaster Prevention : Tachikawa Disaster Prevention Center (Tokyo)



3/9 Courtesy Call : Mayor of Kamogawa city / Lecture : Disaster Prevention and Environment (Kamogawa City)



3/10 Environment : Certified as one of the best industrial waste trader by Ministry of Environment (Kamogawa city)



3/11 Cultural Experience : Tea Ceremony, Kimono Wearing (Kamogawa city)



Farm Experience : Oyama Senmaida (Kamogawa city)



3/13 Farm Experience : Strawberry Picking (Kamogawa city)



3/14 Environment/Cutting-edge Technology : Kimitsu Plant, Nippon Steel & Sumitomo Metal Co. (Kimitsu city)

6. Voice from Participants

◆ India / Student

The visit to Japan has been a life changing event. It helped me expand my horizons of knowledge and improve my social skills. This program has changed my perception about Japan and more generally about the global community. Being able to mingle with people from different parts of Asia is a very rare opportunity and has changed me as a person and my paradigm of learning and understanding specifically. The Miraikan Science museum was like a dream, everything there was intriguing. Being a science enthusiast, I enjoyed the visits to the Tokyo water reclamation center, and the green (eco-friendly) technologies being used in the Takatsue resort. Coming to the social aspect, people here are very polite, humble, punctual and kind-hearted. The punctuality and humbleness really sets them apart. I really enjoyed being a part of a Japanese family for a couple of days. It truly exposed the similarities and differences of the Japanese culture and tradition. Apart from that, I loved the city of Tokyo. It was nothing less than Utopia. The subtle balance between greenery and technology was the best part.

◆ Bangladesh / Student

I knew Japan as a country of development and technology. I also knew about the strength, courage and determination of the Japanese people. But what surprised me the most was their welcoming attitude and their enthusiasm to let us know about their history, culture and development. They were very hospitable and had a very kind approach in any of their works. The students at the Toyama High School were one of the brightest and the most critical thinkers I've ever met. During my home-stay, it was like I had found another family hundreds of miles away from my home. I will miss my Oto-san and Oka-san, I will miss their loving smiles and heartwarming love. The Japanese people respect their cultures and traditions very much and using these as the base of their life style they have created an amazing country of groundbreaking technology, amazing punctuality and heartwarming emotions. If given the chance I would very much like to come to Japan for my higher studies.

◆ Pakistan / Adult


Japan has impressed me a lot. The thing I like the most about Japan is in the preservation of their culture. Being the third largest economy of the world the Japanese people are still deeply linked with their traditions. Customs and rituals and are passing it to their younger generation. I have found Japanese cultural dress extremely graceful and carried and it was a wonderful experience of wearing them. From my homestay experience I found that how strong their family system is. There is so much respect for the elders and hospitality is deeply incorporated in their life style.

◆ Maldives / Adult

Japan has always been one of the countries that I found interesting. What little I learned about

the Japanese, I learned from television, books and social media. I was quite impressed by the advance technology in Japan, more than that the rich culture and heritage always amused me. This is my first visit to Japan and I would gladly say that I want to come back as soon as I can. This is so uniquely beautiful with such polite people. We all come to learn that the modern buildings are earthquake proof and we got to live on farmland with Japanese families for two days. What I got to experience in here Japan was surely the best of both worlds. What with the impressive technology, culture, food, historical buildings, it's bliss. What truly impressed me the most was how every single Japanese I met was so full of love and care. This is something so rare in this world and I think that's what makes Japan so uniquely beautiful. I most certainly do not want to go back home, but when I do, I would most certainly share my experience with everyone. Everything from A to Z and they are all positive, good, things.

7. Action Plan Presented at the Reporting Session by Participants

 <p>WHAT AND HOW</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video and experience sharing on social networking sites • Conducting lectures and orientations (e.g. school, public places) • Presentations at Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) • Articles on newspapers and magazines 	<p>• ACTION PLAN</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote the concept of creative and out-of-the-box thinking . 2. Encourage application of what we learn and think more practically. 3. Remember that every problem has a solution only if we think a little . 4. Exchange the different technologies in Japan to give a glimpse of what can be adopted in our countries . 5. Through public speaking, newspapers, articles and SNS.
Action Plan	Action Plan