



KAKEHASHI Project Inbound Program (USA, Young Researchers Slot No.3) Program Report

1. Program Overview

Under “Japan’s Friendship Ties Program”, 20 young researchers visited Japan. During the 7 days program from February 17 to February 23, 2016, the participants studied the Japanese government, society, history, culture, foreign policy, and much more. The participants aim to promote Japan through mediums such as SNS.

2. Participating Countries and Number of Participants

USA (20 Participants)

3. Prefectures Visited

Tokyo, Kanagawa and Kyoto

4. Program Schedule

February 17 (Wed) Arrival at Narita International Airport

February 18 (Thu) 【Orientation】 / 【Discussion】 Ministry of Foreign Affairs

- * Group A 【Discussion】 Nikkei, Inc.

- 【Visit】 Institute of Energy Economics, Japan(IEEJ)

- 【History and Culture】 Edo Tokyo Museum

- * Group B 【Company Visit】 Japan Bank for International Cooperation

- 【Think Tank】 The Japan Institute of International Affairs

February 19 (Fri) 【Cutting Edge Technology】 J-POWER (EPDC) Isogo Plant

- * Group A 【Think Tank】 Rebuild Japan Initiative Foundation (RJIF)

- 【Visit】 Sasagawa Peace Foundation

- * Group B 【Visit】 Ministry of Defense

- 【Visit】 Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

- 【Interaction】 Dinner meeting with CSIS-NIKKEI Virtual Think Tank

February 20 (Sat) (Group A and B) Move to Kyoto

- 【History and Culture】 Kinkaku-ji Temple, Shunko-in Temple

- 【Workshop】

February 21 (Sun) (Group A and B)

- 【Regional Industry】 Gekkeikan

- 【History and Culture】 Fushimi-inari Shrine, Arashiyama

February 22 (Mon) (Group A and B) Move to Tokyo

- 【Talk & Discussion】 Abenomics & gender issue

- * Group A 【Visit】 Institute for Sustainable Energy Policies

- * Group B 【Visit】 Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry

- 【Reporting Session】

February 23 (Tue)

* Group A 【Meeting】 Diet members of the Democratic Party

* Group B 【History and Culture】 Edo Tokyo Museum

Departure from Narita International Airport (All)

5. Young Researchers Slot No.3 Program photo

	
February 18 Discussion with the officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo)	February 18 Institute of Energy Economics, Japan (Tokyo)
	
February 18 Japan Bank for International Cooperation (Tokyo)	February 19 J-POWER (EPDC) Isogo Plant (Yokohama City, Kanagawa Pref.)
	
February 19 Rebuild Japan Initiative Foundation (RJIF) (Tokyo)	February 19 Dinner meeting with CSIS-NIKKEI Virtual Think Tank (Tokyo)

	
February 20 Shunko-in Temple (Kyoto City, Kyoto)	February 21 Gekkeikan (Kyoto City, Kyoto)
	
February 21 Fushimi-inari Shrine (Kyoto City, Kyoto)	February 22 Reporting Session (Tokyo)

6. Voice from Participants

◆ U. S. A. Young researcher

The KAKEHASHI Project is having a very positive impact on the US-Japan Alliance by exposing rising professionals to Japan who otherwise would not have reason to think about the importance of Japan to the United States as a partner in their field.

◆ U. S. A. Young researcher

Given that my work focus is on renewable energy and energy policy. This trip helped me to better understand the challenges and opportunities Japan faces in re-establishing its energy sectors after the Fukushima disaster. I plan to brief my colleagues on Japan's nuclear and renewable energy targets and discuss ways for the US to cooperate with Japan on this important topic.

◆ U. S. A. Young researcher

I was very impressed by my entire visit, but was particularly blown away by how kind everyone was that we interacted with – from hotel staff to restaurant waiters to the various ministry workers and other young professionals. Everyone had thoughtful, smart answers to all of my questions.

As far as my research interest in health policy – I was very surprised at how low medical costs

are for consumers, and how Japan is struggling with many of the same issues as the U.S. system – providing quality, value-based care. I believe there is much potential for cross-cultural research on this moving forward





◆ U. S. A. Young researcher


I was very impressed by Japan's rich cultural history as well as its advanced technologies and its strong emphasis on innovation (in business and policy). Exploring the temples and shrines in Kyoto gave me new insight into the country's long and complex political and religious history and how it has influenced Japanese art, architecture, society, and tradition. Meanwhile, travelling via Shinkansen and visiting the Isogo power plant showed me Japan's recent advancements in transport infrastructure and ongoing innovations in the field of energy efficiency and reductions in emissions. I am very grateful for the opportunity to share my new perspectives on Japanese culture and society with my friends, family and close colleagues back in the U.S.! Thank you again for the fruitful experience.

◆ U. S. A. Young researcher

I was impressed most by the degree to which the policymakers and experts we met thought about issues that are nominally outside their field/purview, and strive to integrate these (e.g., the aging society, the interdependence of energy and security issues) into their own work. I was also very impressed by these experts' commitment to sharing knowledge to benefit people across the world.

7. Action Plan Presented at the Reporting Session by Participants

<p>KNOWLEDGE GAINED ON THE TRIP</p> <p>U.S. alliance as Japan's top foreign policy priority Japan's concern about growing Sino-U.S. ties; desire for primacy of U.S.-Japan relationship in East Asia "Lost decades" – efforts to reignite the economy; "womenomics" Immigration off the agenda; need for supportive family policies Controversy over nuclear power; continued & expanding reliance on fossil fuels Extremely welcoming; desire to share traditions; very safe</p> <p>ACTION PLAN</p> <p><u>What:</u> Consider Japan's interests; opportunities for cooperation in our ongoing policy work <u>Why:</u> Shared commitment to liberal international order; deep shared energy and security challenges; shared democratic values <u>When:</u> Immediately and ongoing <u>Who:</u> Trip participants <u>To Whom:</u> CAP senior staff; Washington D.C. policy community (think tanks, academia, etc.)</p>	<p>IDEAS FOR CONTINUED EXCHANGE</p> <p>Written products exploring cooperative opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate shared development & deployment opportunities for renewable energy • Convey best-practices for economic inclusion & supportive family policies • Analyze impact of Japanese security reforms; areas of opportunity on security, peacekeeping, & stabilization efforts <p>Briefings and further education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present lessons learned to CAP staff • Include Japanese embassy staff, experts in future events • Monitor developments in Japan and the region <p>Arigato!</p>
Findings and Action Plan (Group A)	Findings and Expectation (Group A)
<p>Demographics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reality of aging population affects all areas of policy—and society • Role of women in the labor force similarly omnipresent • Homogeneity of the population, small presence of immigration <p>Depth and breadth of Japan-U.S. alliance</p> <p>Long history of alliance cuts across many policy areas: defense, trade, cultural exchange</p> <p>Energy security</p> <p>Pursuit of diverse, stable, and secure energy supply imbues all areas of policy</p> 	<p>Action Plan: Networking</p> <p>Building on our interactions with CSIS-Nikkei Fellows, ministry and professional contacts, and CAP colleagues, we will continue to exchange expertise with young research professionals in Japan</p> <p>Action Plan: Tie-ins to current research</p> <p>As reflects the cross-cutting nature of the Japan-U.S. relationship, lessons learned through the Kakehashi Program are applicable to research across program areas at Brookings</p>   
Findings (Group B)	Action Plan (Group B)

<p>Action Plan: Ambassadors</p>  <p>Final thoughts</p> <p>Gratitude for this unique experience The Kakehashi Program is a testament to the strong cultural and policy ties between the United States and Japan We're happy to help further it!</p>	
<p>Action Plan (Group B)</p>	