

## JENESYS2018 ASEAN Outbound 3rd Batch Program Report

### Theme: Sports Exchange (Table Tennis)

### (Socialist Republic of Viet Nam)

#### 1. Program Overview

Under the “JENESYS2018” of Japan’s Friendship Ties Program, 18 Japanese university students and supervisors visited Vietnam from November 12 to November 20, 2018 to participate in the program aimed at promoting the understanding of Japan with regard to its politics, economy, society, culture, history, and foreign policy. This batch is held under the theme of “Sports Exchange (Table Tennis)”

The delegation enhanced their knowledge about the relationship between Japan and Vietnam, Vietnam people, culture and lifestyle through the meeting with government officials, observation of Japan’s ODA site, city tour, and home-visit experience. During the Table Tennis exchange program including table tennis player with disabilities, they cultivated the friendship between Japan and Vietnam youths, and they delivered presentation of the attractiveness of Japan including Table Tennis spirit and techniques, “2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games”. They shared their individual discovery, interests and experiences through social media. In the final reporting session, they reported about both discovery in Vietnam and the action plans to be implemented after returning to Japan for government officials and local residents.

**【School Names and Number of Participants】** Osaka University 2, Kwansei Gakuin University 1, Keio University 2, Kobe University 1, Saitama University 2, Tokyo University 2, Doshisha University 3, Hosei University 1, Waseda University 3, Japan Table Tennis Association 1

#### 2. Program Schedule

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| Nov. 12 (Mon) | <b>【Orientation】</b> , Departure from Narita International Airport<br>Arrival at Vietnam Hanoi Noi Bai International Airport                                                                                                          |
| Nov. 13 (Tue) | <b>【Courtesy Call】</b> Embassy of Japan in Vietnam<br><b>【Courtesy Call】</b> Centre for Youth Development and International Cooperation (CYDECO)<br><b>【Observation】</b> Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Vietnam Office |
| Nov. 14 (Wed) | <b>【Sports Exchange①】</b> Table Tennis Practice and Training with Youth Team in Hai Duong City                                                                                                                                        |
| Nov. 15 (Thu) | <b>【Sports Exchange②】</b> Table Tennis Friendship Match with Youth Team in Hai-Duong City                                                                                                                                             |

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| Nov. 16 (Fri) | 【Cultural Observation】 Historical relics in Hai-Duong, pagoda in Con Son                          |
| Nov. 17 (Sat) | 【Home-visit】 in Hanoi                                                                             |
| Nov. 18 (Sun) | 【Sports Exchange③】 Table Tennis Club for challenged person in Dong Da District, Hanoi, 【Workshop】 |
| Nov. 19 (Mon) | 【Reporting Session and Farewell Party】<br>Departure from Vietnam                                  |
| Nov. 20 (Tue) | Arrival in Japan                                                                                  |

### 3. Program Photos

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| <p>Nov. 13 【Courtesy Call】<br/>Embassy of Japan in Vietnam</p>                      | <p>Nov. 13 【Courtesy Call】 Centre for Youth Development and International Cooperation (CYDECO)</p>     |
|  |                    |
| <p>Nov. 13 【Observation・Lecture】 JICA Vietnam Office</p>                            | <p>Nov. 14 【Sports Exchange①】 Table Tennis Practice and Training with Youth Team in Hai-Duong City</p> |

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| <p>Nov. 15 【Sports Exchange②】 Table Tennis Friendship Match with Youth Team in Hai Duong City</p>    |                                                                                      |
|                    |   |
| <p>Nov. 16 【Cultural Observation】<br/>Historical relics in Hai-Duong</p>                             | <p>Nov. 17 【Home-visit】</p>                                                          |
|                   |  |
| <p>Nov. 18 【Sports Exchange③】 Table Tennis Club for challenged person in Dong Da District, Hanoi</p> | <p>Nov. 19 【Reporting session and Farewell Luncheon】</p>                             |

#### 4. Voices from Participants

##### ◆ University Student (Kobe University)

The thing which struck me the most was the contrast between developed and non-developed areas of Hanoi. While highly advanced condominium apartments and shopping moles are in one corner, there are other areas where old and small houses and street vendors are still coexisted. I think old markets and street vendors should be preserved as an authentic landscape of Vietnam because I don't feel the same when I saw advanced buildings and shopping moles. However, if it originates from the wealth disparity, I think certain improvement would be needed. When it comes to the table tennis

exchanges, I enjoyed myself very much although it was my first time to play abroad and sometimes I felt it difficult to play in a different environment and with different playing styles. Language communication was difficult with Vietnamese except some simple things, but I realized we were able to communicate well through table tennis. I reassured the power of sports including table tennis. As for foods, the dishes in Vietnam were delicious. On the occasion of home visit, we experienced their dinner at home and tried some home-cooked dishes. I understand that those experiences would be impossible to get in a sightseeing trip and thus became valuable to me.

◆ **University Student** (Keio University)

I had high expectations on the chance that would provide opportunities to play table tennis with players overseas since I have been working hard on it. When I studied about the country myself before the departure and when we visited the Japanese embassy in Vietnam, I heard about how much Vietnamese like Japan and wish to visit our country. I gradually felt relaxed to know that they were friendly to Japanese. When I talked with local people during table tennis exchanges in Hai Duong city and the home visit, it was true that they knew a lot about our cultures such as anime, manga, drama and music and they felt close to Japan and wished to visit. Some young players even said they liked Japanese top table tennis players; Harimoto and Hirano. I had never communicated with foreign people before so I had no knowledge about what they thought of Japan. However, when I heard their impressions through close contact with them, I found myself to love Japan. I felt I would like to disseminate good aspects of Japan more actively to those who still don't know much about our country. Now I have a dream, still vague though, but I wish to find a job to support Vietnam by utilizing Japanese knowledge, technology and know-how so that people are proud of their country. I really feel grateful that I was able to participate in such a program that gave an important hint to my future.

◆ **University Student** (Kwansei Gakuin University)

Each visit was a wonderful experience for me although the time was limited. I think the courtesy call was significantly meaningful for my future because I was able to learn a lot about Vietnam. I also learned that lack of knowledge could impede technical skill improvement even though everyone has a wish to become stronger and he/she has enough time and place to practice. I now understand the importance of knowledge and the necessity of daily study in order to improve my skills. I should not forget to be ambitious and to widen my antenna all the time. In the talk session at JICA, the lecturer said, "There are things you can't understand until you yourself go there, meet people and experience the life there." The comment was very impressive and actually, I found many things by visiting Vietnam and meeting local people. Some were the same as I had imagined but some were different. Especially, facilities at high-end residential area that I visited during the home visit were so advanced that they were the same level as those in developed countries or more advanced, rather. However, it is obvious that there is a clear disparity between those areas and other areas where many markets are located. I



felt difficulties of social polarization. I realize that my horizon has widened than before thanks to the exposure to different cultures. I would like to utilize this valuable experience in my future and I will continue to work hard.

## 5. Voice from local people

### ◆ Youths (A member of Hai Duong Table Tennis Team)

It was a wonderful exchange. Japanese students are kind, friendly, cooperative and they respect their opponents. I have learned a lot of things through the exchange including how to play and move during games, the way to respect opponents and to play fair. I was able to play with many students and to make friends. I really expect that the international exchange through table tennis will continue so that I can experience more games with foreign players and learn more.


### ◆ Youths (A member of Hai Duong Table Tennis Team)


Although I met Japanese students for the first time in my life, I got a very good impression from them. They are friendly and cooperative. I have learned about Japanese table tennis, culture and people through the exchange. The students played very well. I think their technical levels are as high as those of Vietnamese professional players. I felt that there were a lot to learn from them. I want to know more about Japanese culture and people there. So I would like to visit Japan someday if I have a chance.

### ◆ Youths (A member of table tennis club for challenged in Dong Da District, Hanoi)

I have learned many things through the table tennis exchange. The table tennis level of Japanese is very high. In Vietnam, ordinary people don't play with challenged people. So I have never played with them until today. But Japanese people came to our club all the way and exchanged with us positively. In addition, they played while sitting on the wheelchair in order to understand the senses and feelings of challenged. I was impressed to see that. Thank you so much. I really hope that such exchanges will continue so that challenged people can improve the skills of table tennis further.

## 6. Dissemination by participants

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|  | <p>The participants moved from Hanoi to Hai Duong where the Table Tennis Exchange Program was held to play a friendly match against a national youth team. Players of both teams built their friendship through exchanging uniforms with each other.</p> |
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The participants visited the Table Tennis Club for challenged person in Hanoi and practiced playing the sport together. As it was the first time for the Japanese students to use a wheelchair to play the sports, they gained a lot of awareness from those who enjoy playing it despite their disabilities.

## 7. Action Plan Presented by Participants at the Reporting Session

1. For Para table tennis players in Vietnam



Watching videos

↓

Improve the skills

↓

make the environment of table tennis better !!

• Conclusion

- We will also introduce (from now on)...

**1.The movies of disabled matches by using Vietnamese**  
(in order to prevail disabled table tennis)

**2.The movies of our team match**  
(let Vietnamese know the good point of Japanese cheering)

+ create the movies with Vietnamese subtitles

Participants presented the film clips with Vietnamese subtitles showing para table tennis players who are active in Japan and the matches and practice sessions held at the table tennis clubs at universities in Japan. This is one of the efforts to help improve the skills of the Vietnamese table tennis players that they met during this trip.

## 8. Local News Published



Hải Dương, từ ngày 14 - 16/11/2018

ENESYS



Đoàn sinh viên Nhật Bản thăm và giao hữu thể thao ở tỉnh ta trong 3 ngày từ 14-16.11. Ngày 16.11, đoàn đi thăm khu di tích quốc gia đặc biệt Côn Sơn-Kiếp Bạc.

<http://www.m.baohaiduong.vn/the-thao/giao-huu-quoc-te-bong-bai-duong---sinh-vien-nhat-ban-99654> 2019/03/08

**Hai Duong Online Newspaper (Nov./16/2018)**

Table Tennis Friendly Match

URL: <http://www.m.baohaiduong.vn/the-thao/giao-huu-quoc-te-bong-bai-duong---sinh-vien-nhat-ban-99654>