JENESYS2019 ASEAN Outbound Program 3rd Batch Program Report  
Theme: Japanese Culture Exchange  
Country: Myanmar

1. Program Overview

15 Japanese university students visited Myanmar for 9 days from November 26 to December 4, 2019 as part of the Japan’s Friendship Ties Programs “JENESYS 2019”. They participated the program under the theme of “Japanese Culture Exchange”, which aimed to promote its understanding of Japanese politics, economy, society, and history, as well as proactively appeal Japanese cultures by social media.

During the stay in Myanmar, the group visited the Embassy of Japan in Myanmar, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Japanese enterprises, and local company so forth, to deepen the knowledge about the relationship between Japan and Myanmar and Japanese international contribution. In addition, through the experience of school exchange with students of same generation and of traditional cultures, they also deepened their understanding of culture and society of Myanmar.

During the program, the participants shared their discoveries and experiences through social media to promote understanding of Japan in Myanmar and strengthen the relationship between two countries. At the reporting session before leaving Japan, the group presented an action plan (activity plans after returning home) to convey their experiences while visiting Myanmar.

【Affiliation and Number of Participants】
Prefectural University of Hiroshima: 5 persons
Shimane University: 5 persons
Hokuriku University: 5 persons

2. Program Schedule

November 26th (Tue)
【Arrival】 Arrival in Myanmar

November 27th (Wed)
【Orientation】
【Courtesy Call】 Embassy of Japan in Myanmar
【Observation】 Training school for Girl

November 28th (Thu)
【Observation of Japanese Company】 J-SAT
【Lecture】Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) “Japan’s contribution to Myanmar”
【ODA site Observation】Greater Yangon Water Supply Improvement Project, Bago River Bridge Construction Project

November 29th (Fri)
【School Exchange】Metro IT Japanese Language Center
【School Exchange】Thanlyin Technological University
【Observation】Thilawa Industrial Park

November 30th (Sat)
【Home visit】Kyaikthale Village

December 1st (Sun)
【Observation】Japan House–wa-Shwe Dagon Pagoda (incl. Volunteer cleaning activity)
【Traditional Culture Experience】Workshop for Myanmar Dance

December 2nd (Mon)
【Local Company Visit】MSR
【Workshop】

December 3rd (Tue)
【Reporting Session】
【Japanese Company Visit】F&P Group
【Departure】

December 4th (Wed)
【Arrival】Arrival in Japan
3. Program photos

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 27th</td>
<td>【Orientation】</td>
<td>Embassy of Japan in Myanmar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 27th</td>
<td>【Observation】</td>
<td>Training School for Girl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 28th</td>
<td>【Japanese Company Visit】</td>
<td>J-SAT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 28th</td>
<td>【Lecture】</td>
<td>JICA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 28th</td>
<td>【ODA Site Visit】</td>
<td>Greater Yangon Water Supply Improvement Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Event Type</td>
<td>Location/Activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 28th</td>
<td>ODA site Visit</td>
<td>Bago River Bridge Construction Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 29th</td>
<td>School Exchange</td>
<td>Metro IT Japanese Language Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 29th</td>
<td>School Exchange</td>
<td>Thanlyin Technological University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 29th</td>
<td>Observation</td>
<td>Thilawa Industrial Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 30th</td>
<td>Home Visit</td>
<td>Kyaikthale Village</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 1st</td>
<td>Observation</td>
<td>Japan House -wa-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Event Details</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| December 1st | **Observation**  
Shwe Dagon Pagoda  
Volunteer Cleaning activity |
| December 1st | **Traditional Culture Experience**  
Workshop for Myanmar Dance |
| December 2nd | **Local Company Visit**  
MSR |
| December 2nd | **Experience**  
Local Railway Riding |
| December 2nd | **Workshop** |
| December 3rd | **Reporting Session** |
4. Feedback from the Participants (excerpt as written)

◆ A University Student, Shimane University
It is said that we can research almost everything by internet in this era, but I thought there was huge difference whether we actually went and got lively information on site or not. Before going to Myanmar, I researched and studied about Myanmar by internet and books. However, when I actually went there, the information was not really wrong superficially, but I found there was something slightly different at the core. Thorough this program, I learned that it was necessary to get knowledge which was actually gained from experience, not only for understanding of other cultures but also expanding own horizons.

◆ A University Student, Shimane University
It was good experience to talk with Japanese people who was currently working in Myanmar. It was not really the same impressions of Myanmar which I leaned from Japanese people, from the point of Japanese, and that from people of Myanmar. It needs to see things from different perspectives to understand other cultures or own country. In that sense, it was much easier to understand it thorough the perspective of Japanese who live in Myanmar than that from myself who just stayed there few days.

◆ A University Student, Prefectural University of Hiroshima
What I learned from this program is that Myanmar, even though it is still developing country, will be most potential country to develop rapidly in future. There are many fields to be improved such as infrastructure, education systems, but this can be advantages for them to start from zero. After this program, I will try to share this experience such as, historical relations between Myanmar and Japan, current status of aid supports for infrastructures and education reform, culture and tradition of Myanmar, similarities and differences of tribes, religion, and festivals, furthermore, why the world focuses on Myanmar.

◆ A University Student, Prefectural University of Hiroshima
My first stay in Myanmar, all bring fresh memories, became precious time for me. There were so many experiences which would not be understood before actually visiting and feeling my own Myanmar. People of Myanmar treated us very kindly, so I realized their goodness and purity. I thought there was similarity with Japan that Yangon city has mixed cultures, not only from Myanmar but also French or others, for example, illuminations, Xmas trees, colonial English style architecture, skyscraper made by developed country. Myanmar was well developed more than I had imagined so my impression had been much changed. I thought I need to share right information and attractions of Myanmar, because many Japanese had never known anything about Myanmar or had negative images as it looked like dangerous. In addition, I realized attractions of Japan in Myanmar,
which was well organized in many ways, such as infrastructures and education systems. Based on this experience, I will actively share it to encourage people to visit Myanmar or Japan and try to contribute to develop friendly relationship between two countries.

◆ A University Student, Hokuriku University
It was very good experience for me to participate the program, Japan's Friendship Ties Programs by Ministry of foreign affairs. Because, I was able to broaden my horizon at this timing of just before a graduation of university. Especially, company visits and cultural experience gave me chances to think how I could contribute to the world as not just a person from one country but as a citizen of the world. In my daily life in Japan, I had never thought of how I was able to influence on the world, but this visit gave me a personal mission in my future life.

◆ A University Student, Hokuriku University
I think many of us don't chose Myanmar as a destination of journey or even don't really know about the country. It was very good experience to see by my own eyes and talk to local people and to know about Myanmar. I will try to share this experience to many people so that they have interests in Myanmar.

5. Feedback from the Hosts (excerpt)
◆ A Person in Charge, Thanlyin Technological University
I was wonderful chances for students of both Japan and Myanmar to learn about people and culture of each other. For Japanese students, there must have been new findings for Japanese students. Japanese students actively tried to talk to our students, which made students of Myanmar happy. Also, they asked many questions to our students, and the program was very fruitful.

◆ A Person in Charge, MSR
I thought this program provided wonderful opportunities which enable students to observe the developing country like Myanmar in safety as a group. The students was listening earnestly to our explanation. I was impressed that they asked questions not only in Japanese but also in English.
6. External Communication by the Participants

【Facebook】Shimane University
A post about;
Metro IT Japanese Language Center,
Thanlyin Technological University,
Thilawa Industrial Park

【Facebook】Shimane University
A post about;
J-SAT, JICA, Greater Yangon Water Supply Improvement Project,
Bago River Bridge Construction Project

【Facebook】Prefectural University of Hiroshima
A post about; Local Railway experience

【Facebook】Prefectural University of Hiroshima
A post about; Home visit
7. Action Plan Presented by Participants at the Reporting Session (excerpt)

Presentation of Action Plan, Shimane University
1. Creating Facebook group account as Shimane Uni. Participants, keep posting once a week for 15 weeks, introducing cultures of Myanmar and Japan, and discoveries in Myanmar.
2. Reporting JENESYS experience and impressions, organizing an event and reporting session to introduce food culture, traditional costume, and language etc.
### Presentation of Action Plan, Prefectural Hiroshima University

1. Presenting our experience at school, making posters
2. Posting by SNS, mainly Instagram
3. PR Myanmar culture at School Festival

⇒ Keep posting which attracts viewers interests for Myanmar

### Presentation of Action Plan, Hokuriku University

1. Posting Video contents once in every 2 weeks by Instagram, Twitter, Facebook, YouTube etc.
2. Setting a Myanmar booth at University cafeteria and student office, sharing information by photos and sweets of Myanmar

Project implementing body: JTB Corp.