

## JENESYS2021 Japan-Lao PDR Online Exchange (Urban Development Exchange) Report

### 1. Program Overview

【Objective】 This program was conducted with the main objectives of having Lao youth deepen their understanding of Japan's initiatives on recycling, and public transportation, as well as to strengthen external communication in Lao PDR by having the youth share their learnings and findings on social media.

【Participants】 Total: 47 high school students, vocational school students, undergraduate/graduate students, working youths, and administrators in Lao PDR

【Location】 Saitama Pref., Tokyo, Okinawa Pref., Nagano Pref.


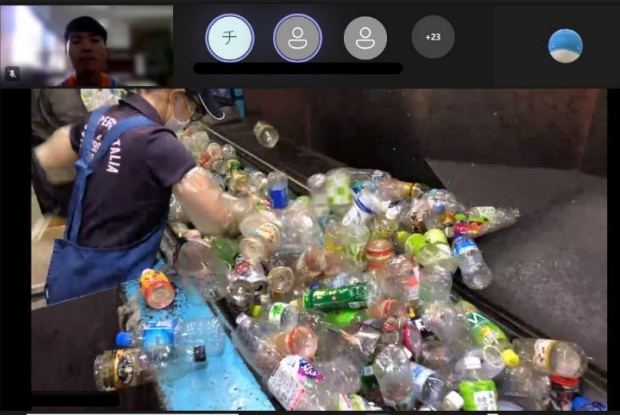




#### 【Program Schedule】

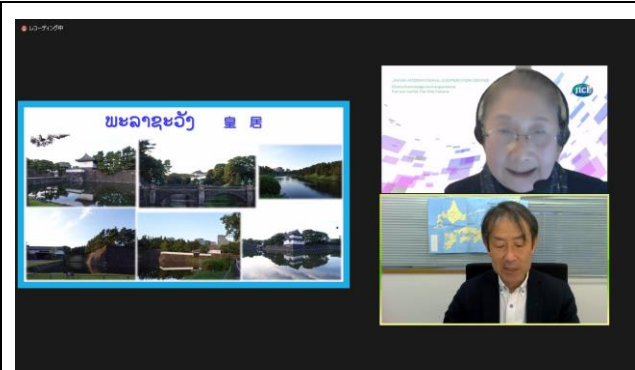
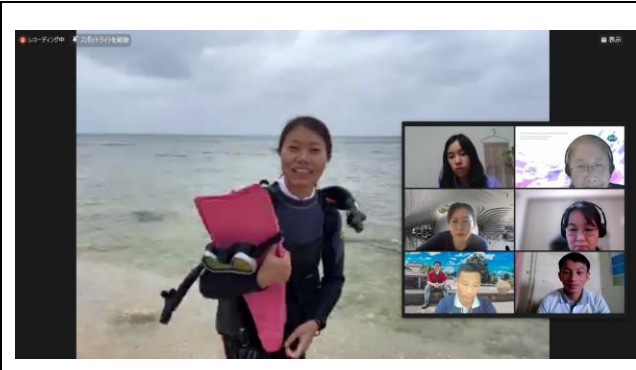


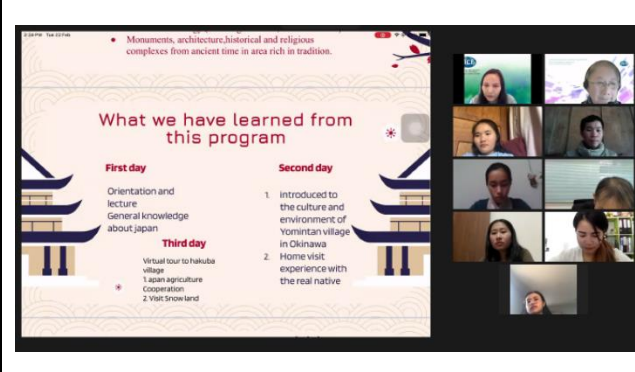
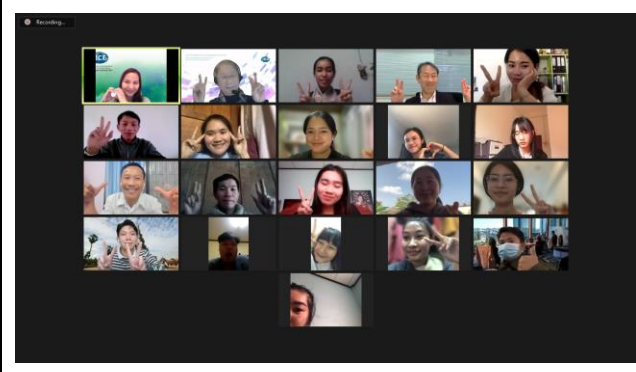
Date Location	Program contents	Participants' questions and reactions
Number of participants for the following 2 days: 31		
October 13, 2021 Saitama Pref.	<b>【Observation, Q&amp;A Session】</b> Recycle Plaza JB, Japan Beverage - Recycling plant for empty beverage containers Lecture “Introduction to vending machines in Japan” 1. Overview of Recycle Plaza JB 2. Factory tour of Recycle Plaza JB 3. Additional information, Q&A session	There was a lecture and a factory tour. During the Q&A session, the participants asked questions such as why we need to recycle, the advantages (disadvantages) of not recycling, if the facility recycles only the waste generated in Japan, and how the factory came to be. In Lao PDR, workers collect garbage that can be redeemed for cash, which is then bought by recycling companies at very low prices, and some participants asked for Japan's assistance in making this garbage more valuable in the future.
Decemb er 11, 2021 Saitama Pref.	<b>【Webinar, Q&amp;A session】</b> 1. Lecture “Effort on community transportation development through visualization and resourcefulness”	A number of questions were asked, such as if electric buses were introduced in Japan in consideration of environmental issues, and how they were affected by the spread of COVID-19. There were also questions

	<p>Lecturer: Mr. YAJIMA Masaru, President, Eagle Bus. Co., Ltd.</p> <p>2. Q&amp;A session</p>	about the project the company is involved in with the Vientiane Capital State Bus Enterprise.
Number of participants during the following 6 days: 16 (Jointly with other programs)		
February 10~, 2022	<p><b>【Video Viewing】</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Virtual Home Visit</li> <li>2. Message from Minamisanriku</li> <li>3. Efforts of Hakuba Village toward the Environment</li> </ol>	To foster better understanding of Japan, participants watched a video about Japan and the program before they participated in the main program.
February 16, 2022 Tokyo	<p><b>【Orientation】 【Webinar, Q&amp;A Session】</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Orientation (in groups)</li> <li>2. Webinar, Q&amp;A Session “Japan’s Attractions” Lecturer: Prof. ODA Yuichi, Institute for Excellence in Educational Innovation, Chiba University</li> <li>3. Presentation by JDS Fellows from Lao PDR “Introduction to Life in Japan” Mr. Nhiavue Yevang, Hiroshima University</li> <li>4. Exchanges in groups</li> </ol> <p>* The Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship by Japanese Grant Aid (JDS ): A project to receive international students in Japan through grant aid under the government's plan to receive 100,000 international students.</p>	The lecture focused on basic information about Japan, including its geography, culture, religion, education, and advanced technology. Participants asked many questions about Japan's education system, such as the differences between the junior and senior high school education systems, education at home, and English education in Japan. The presentation by the JDS* student from Lao PDR began with a self-introduction, followed by an enjoyable introduction of his life in Japan, including his experiences and impressions of life in Japan and events with other JDS Fellows. Finally, the students were divided into groups and decided on their roles for the final reporting session.
February 17, 2022 Yomitan Village, Okinawa Pref.	<p><b>【Home Visit, Exchange】</b></p> <p>Location: Yomitan Village, Okinawa Pref.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Introduction to Yomitan Village</li> <li>2. Virtual snorkeling</li> <li>3. Home visit experience, Exchange</li> <li>4. Photo session</li> </ol>	<p>Being from the landlocked country of Lao PDR, the participants were excited to see the creatures in the sea when they watched the snorkeling video. The participants were also very interested to learn that there are monthly trash pickup activities at the beach to protect the environment.</p> <p>During the home visit, the participants were very interested in the introduction of Okinawan traditional costumes and Okinawan cuisine. The participants from</p>

		Lao PDR actively took part in the exchange, introducing their homes and other aspects of their lives. Some groups were asking each other what kind of souvenirs the locals would like if they could actually go to Okinawa.
February 18, 2022 Hakuba Village, Nagano Pref.	<b>【Municipality Visit, Exchange】</b> Location: Hakuba Village, Nagano Pref. 1. Live feed from a ski resort in Hakuba Village 2. Overview of Hakuba Village, Introduction to the agriculture and tourism of Hakuba Village 3. Q&A session 4. Photo session	The participants were surprised by the live feed from the ski resort, and being from the tropical country of Lao PDR, they found the introduction of tourism and agriculture to be a new and interesting experience, as the climates of the two countries are quite different. They asked many questions such as about the tourism in summer, rules for when staying at a local home, and whether harvesting vegetables in the snow is costly despite the hard work involved.
February 21, 2022 Tokyo	<b>【Workshop】</b> 1. Reflection on the program 2. Action plan formulation and presentation preparation	Divided into groups, the participants developed action plans based on their learning throughout the program and prepared presentations for the reporting session.
February 22, 2022 Tokyo	<b>【Reporting Session】</b> 1. Presentations by the participants 2. Review	The participants made presentations in English and Japanese on their action plans to be implemented within three months after the program. A number of creative plans to disseminate information about Japan to a wide range of people were proposed.

## 2. Program Photos

	
<p>October 13, 2021 【Observation, Q&amp;A Session】 Learning about the recycling process at Japan Beverage.</p>	<p>October 13, 2021 【Observation, Q&amp;A Session】 Watching the process at the plant live.</p>
	
<p>October 13, 2021 【Observation, Q&amp;A Session】 Lecturer answering a question on the advantages and disadvantages of recycling.</p>	<p>October 13, 2021 【Observation, Q&amp;A Session】 Participants taking a group photo after an active Q&amp;A session.</p>
	
<p>December 11, 2021 【Webinar, Q&amp;A Session】 Lecture</p>	<p>December 11, 2021 【Webinar, Q&amp;A Session】 Group photo</p>

	
<p>February 16, 2022 【Webinar, Q&amp;A Session】 Lecture</p>	<p>February 17, 2022 【Home Visit, Exchange】 Introduction to Yomitan Village</p>
	
<p>February 18, 2022 【Municipality Visit, Exchange】 Ski experience at Hakuba Village</p>	<p>February 18, 2022 【Municipality Visit, Exchange】 Introduction to the high value-added agriculture in Hakuba Village</p>
	
<p>February 22, 2022 【Reporting Session】 Action plan presentation</p>	<p>February 22, 2022 【Reporting Session】 Commemorative photo</p>

### 3. Voices from Participants (excerpt)

#### ◆ Working Youth

I am glad JICE gave me this opportunity and that I could participate in this program.

#### ◆ Undergraduate Student

With photos and charts, the materials provided were clear and easy to understand and I was able to deepen my understanding. I was also interested in the various statistics. The lecturer also spoke gently and with care, and I enjoyed the lecture.

#### ◆ **Working Youth**

We learned how the issue of declining bus users was being approached to bring the number of users back up.

#### ◆ **Undergraduate Student**

Hearing about the experiences of Japanese people (and the efforts of companies) that I didn't know about before made me want to learn even more about Japan.

#### ◆ **High School Student**

It was a very fulfilling program and I learned many new things. I hope to participate in many more long-term programs in the future and gain even more knowledge. Some members were not comfortable posting on social media, so we still need to figure out how to disseminate information about Japan.

#### ◆ **High School Student**

I felt I want to go to Japan as soon as possible.

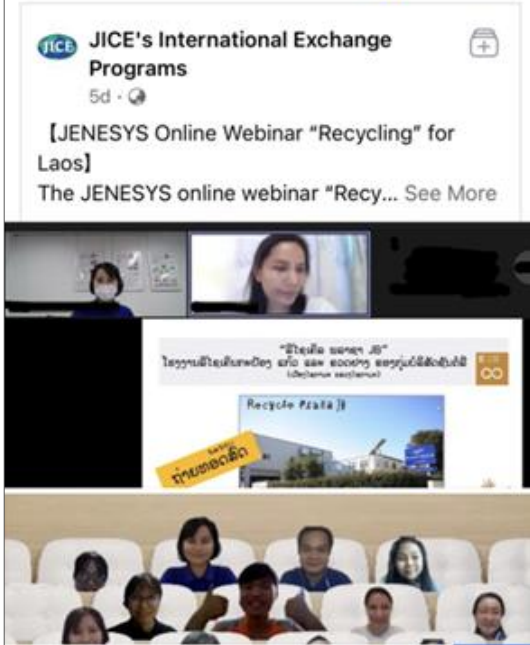

### **4. Voices from Japanese Locals (excerpt)**

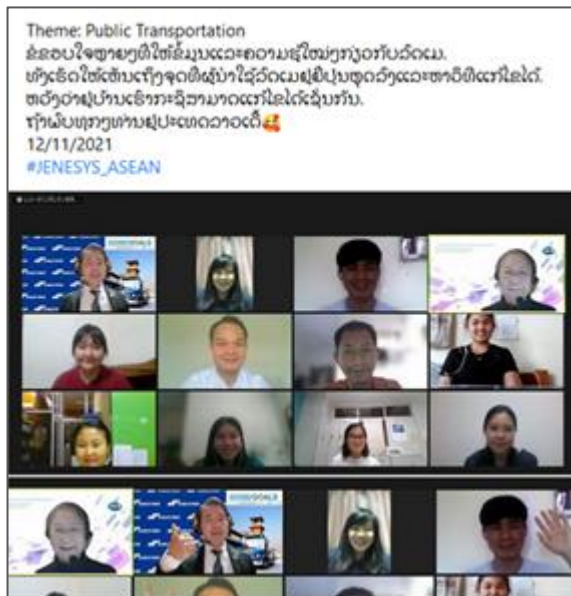
#### ◆ **Cooperating Organization**

By sharing various cultural and historical information about Lao PDR with the host family from the preparation stage, we were able to obtain current information about Lao PDR that we had not been aware of before. We were also able to learn that a relative of the host family had previously stayed in Lao PDR, which became a great topic to kick off the international exchange. During the online exchange, participants from Lao PDR actively introduced their country's food, architecture, and other charms.



## 5. Dissemination by the participants

<p>ຂອບໃຈທີ່ສຳຄັນຈາກການຈັດຈະກຳດັ່ງເລບນີຂຶ້ນມາ ນັ້ນອາດເປັນຄືນທີ່ຫລົງໄຫຼໃນປະເທດຍີ່ປຸ່ນຫລາຍ ແຂງໄດ້ມາເຫັນລະບົບການຈັດການຂີ້ເຫຍື້ອຂອງຍີ່ປຸ່ນເລບນີ.ນັ້ນອາດມີກໍເຂົາເຈົ້າເຮົາເປັນຄືນທີ່ຄົນອື່ນ ຄິດວ່າມັນໄດ້ຄຳມານຳໃຊ້ໃຫມ່ໄດ້ ມັນສະແດງໃຫ້ຮູ້ວ່າ : " ບໍ່ວ່າຈະເປັນຂີ້ເຫຍື້ອ ຫລື ວັດຖຸສິ່ງຂອງທຸກຢ່າງລ້ວນແຕ່ມີຄ່າໃນໄຕມັນ ຂຶ້ນກັບວ່າເຮົາຈະຄິດ ແລະ ນຳໃຊ້ ກັບມັນແນວໃດ " ຍ້ອນແນວນີ້ແຂງເຮັດໃຫ້ເຮົາຮູ້ສຶກວ່າເຮົາເອງກໍຢາກໄປເຫັນປະເທດຍີ່ປຸ່ນສຶກຄົງຫນຶ່ງ ໄປຮຽນຮູ້ ແລະ ນຳມາພັດທະນາປະເທດຂອງເຮົາ ຂອບໃຈຜູ້ໃຫຍ່ໃຈທີ່ທຸກຄົນຫຼາຍໆ ທີ່ມາໃຫ້ຄວາມຮູ້ ນັ້ນອາດໄດ້ທຸກໆຄົນທີ່ມາຮູ້🙏❤️</p> 	<p>First of all I would like to thank you for give me an opportunity to join [JENESYS Online Webinar "Recycling" for Laos] .During the meeting I have more knowledge about how the actual process of recycling going on, what is the difference type of material that can be recycle and how is look like in the end. Also thank you to Recycle plaza JB for giving us the information and the tour, show us how each process are working and answer each question that we have. I have learn a lot during the meeting and I would like to use this knowledge to adapt in my daily life how to separate the material for recycle.</p> <p>#JENESYS</p> 
<p>October 13, 2021 (Facebook)</p> <p>I am grateful for such a great program. I love Japan. When I saw the waste disposal process in Japan, I was impressed by the way they reuse waste that is thought to have no value. I learned that even garbage can become valuable, depending on how you look at it and how you use it. I would like to visit and learn various things in Japan and connect them to the development of Lao PDR. Lastly, I would like to express my gratitude to all the organizations that support this very educational program. Thank you very much.</p>	<p>October 13, 2021 (Facebook)</p> <p>First of all, I would like to thank you for allowing me to participate in this online program. I learned how garbage is actually recycled. I now understand how each raw material can be reused, and to what they become. I would like to thank Recycle Plaza JB for providing us with all the information and allowing us to visit them. We were able to see each step of the process, and all of our questions were answered in detail. We were able to learn so much. I would like to apply what I learned in this program to my daily life and make sure to separate garbage so that it can be recycled.</p>



It was a brilliant experience during the meeting, throughout the meeting I have learn a lot more about the Japan public transport. Before in my point of view I have thought that public transport of Japan is great, most of population in Japan can comfortably use it without bother by gender or age. But after join the meeting I visible the problem they face and what is there solution, make me impressed even more how they put effort and emphasis on this matter. Lastly I'm very thankful and feel honored to join the meeting ... See More



December 11, 2021 (Facebook)

Thank you for sharing with us so much information and knowledge about buses. I also learned that the number of bus users is decreasing in Japan, and that they are looking for solutions to this problem. I hope to see you all in Lao PDR.

December 11, 2021 (Facebook)

It was a brilliant experience during the meeting, throughout the meeting I have learn a lot more about the Japan public transport. Before in my point of view I have thought that public transport of Japan is great, most of population in Japan can comfortably use it without bother by gender or age. But after join the meeting I visible the problem they face and what is there solution, make me impressed even more how they put effort and emphasis on this matter. Lastly I'm very thankful and feel honored to join the meeting.



<p>Day 2 🇯🇵🇻🇳 [Jenesys exchange program online]</p> <p>Today I have learned a lot of things from Yomitan Village tour, Okinawa and Virtual... ดูเพิ่มเติม</p> 	
<p>February 17, 2022 (Facebook)</p> <p>Day 2</p> <p>[Jenesys exchange program online]</p> <p>Today I have learned a lot of things from Yomitan Village tour, Okinawa and Virtual home visit.</p> <p>The sea of Okinawa is gorgeous with several kind of animal that haven't seen in Lao PDR.</p> <p>Then, Staff took us to visit Yomitan Village that we had opportunity to know living.</p> <p>Our group visited a host family, They are very kind and generous to share about their living.</p> <p>My impression of The Day 2 of Jenesys program are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-conserving underwater animal</li> <li>-House Decoration is very interesting that make me feel access to Japanese culture directly</li> </ul> <p>Then, Go to group work session we shared what we have learned So, It can make us to more closely and can also know other people's thought.</p> <p>I hope on Day3 will have more knowledge and more thoughts from The Jenesys Program... See ya!</p>	<p>February 18, 2022 (Facebook)</p> <p>Haisa-i! (Hello in Okinawan dialect)</p> <p>We had the opportunity to exchange with high school and undergraduate students from Lao PDR as part of the Japan's Friendship Ties Programs!</p> <p>Next time, let's meet in Okinawa!</p> <p>Thank you JICE for making this exchange between Yomitan Village and Lao PDR happen.</p> <p>We'll upload details on the amazing three-hour exchange we had over a few different posts.</p>




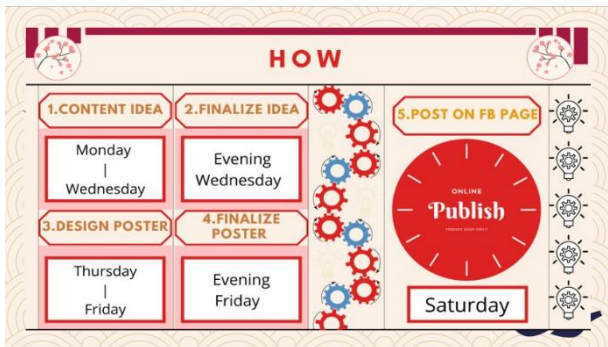

February 20, 2022 (Facebook)

→3rd day When all of the programs began today, we were once again excited and impressed. He took us to the Winter Tourism Village in Hakuba to watch a live broadcast of the Snow Ski Lecture. The tourism business is the city's primary source of revenue. The majority of the businesses are in the tourism industry. Skiing is the most popular winter activity. While the temperature rises in the summer hotels, restaurants, ski resorts, mountain huts, hot springs, and other types of amenities are available.

Although Hakuba is a thinly populated city, it has Japan's largest mountain hut, with 500 dwellings. In the summer, rice and apples are grown, and in the winter, cabbage, carrots, and other vegetables are grown. In the field of agriculture, harvesting and planting Tractors, combine harvesters, and insecticides have all been utilized by farmers to aid in the production and harvesting processes in order to save time, money, and productivity. Furthermore, cutting-edge machinery is used in the selection of size, kind, color, and product quality.

All of the preceding is an educational experience. We heard a presentation on the development of the Hakuba people's tourism and agricultural industries from project workers. We also discussed thoughts on the facts, impressions, and content of the program we heard today at the end of the Group session. Also discussed and planned the work strategy for the future, as well as preparing to join the project as soon as possible.

## 6. Action plan presentations at the final reporting session

Group 1	
 	<p>Title: Highlight of Japan Dissemination</p> <p>Why: Sharing knowledge of culture travel place and other identities of Japan to members' communities</p> <p>When: From February 28, 2022</p> <p>Who: All group members</p> <p>To whom: Our group's social media communities (Facebook), friends and workplace</p> <p>What:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Post on Facebook page: 2 posts/ week</li> <li>- Duration: 3 months or longer</li> </ul> <p>How:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Monday- Wednesday: Content Idea</li> <li>- Evening Wednesday: Finalize Content Idea</li> <li>- Thursday- Friday: Graphic (Design Poster)</li> <li>- Evening Friday: Finalize Poster</li> <li>- Saturday: Post on Facebook page</li> </ul>
Group 2	
	<p>Why: Main purpose is that Lao people to learn, experience and access Japanese culture</p> <p>To whom:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lao people</li> <li>- Social media</li> </ul> <p>Who: Our team</p> <p>What: Post on Facebook fan page, 3-4 posts/ week</p> <p>Duration: 3 months or longer</p>

Implementation agency : Japan International Cooperation Center (JICE)