

"Juntos!! Japan-Latin America and the Caribbean Exchange Program" SDGs in the Post COVID-19 Era

(Target countries/regions: Japan, the Latin America and the Caribbean countries)

1. Online exchange program overview

Juntos!! Japan-Latin America and the Caribbean Exchange program is a program to promote understanding of Japan by Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan. The theme for this year is "SDGs in the Post COVID-19 Era" and lectures by a variety of domestic experts and interactions among participants were held online in March 2022. The target participants are university students and working adults from Japan, Latin America and Caribbean country. They disseminated their learning and experience on SNS after each program.

[Objective]

Juntos!! Japan-Latin America and the Caribbean Exchange program is a program promoted by the Japanese government (Ministry of Foreign Affairs) to invite and dispatch human resources who will be leaders between Japan and Latin American countries in future.

The program aims to promote understanding of Japanese politics, economy, society, culture, history, and diplomatic policy through personal exchange, as well as to discover pro-Japanese and pro-Japanese intellectuals. The program also aims to improve the image of Japan in the international community, to promote continuous interest in Japan, to enhance understanding of Japan in the Latin American region, and to develop Japan-Latin America relations based on deep mutual understanding by actively disseminating information on Japan's diplomatic stance, attractiveness, etc. by the participants.

[Eligible Participants]

102 Latin American and Japanese undergraduate, graduate students and working adults (96 from Latin America, 6 from Japan)

Date	Contents	Participants' questions and reactions
1st	[Orientation]	The aims and objectives of the
March 9th		program were shared among the
Wed.		participants. Participants
		mentioned expectations for later
		programs.
2nd	[Keynote Speech] Ministry of Foreign Affairs of	Participants were proactive,
March 11th	Japan: "SDGs in the Post COVID-19 Era"	asking questions about Japan's
Fri.	Lecturer: Mr. Atsushi Morita	approach to the SDGs.
	Deputy Director, Global Issues Cooperation	Participants deepened their
	Division, International Cooperation Bureau	understanding of Japan's
	1) Lecture	policies.
	2) Q&A	
3rd	[Exchange Events for the Participants]	Participants compared the life
March 11th	1) Orientation, Ice Break	before the pandemic with after
Fri.	2) Group Work: Exchange opinion about	the pandemic and discussed
	"Covid-19 in your country" and preparation for	how the pandemic impact to our
	the whole group presentation	circumstances including
	3) Whole group presentation	environment, people, and the
	4) Overall comments	economy.
4th	[Theme-related Lecture]	There were various questions
March 15th	Theme: "Communities of Nikkei"	after the lecture. Some of the
Tue.	Lecturer: Mr. Satoshi Yoshida,	questions were related to
	Director General, Latin America and Caribbean	Japan's approach to
	Department, JICA	international cooperation,
	1) Lecture	partnership between Japan and
	2) Q&A	Nikkei Community in the world
	[Theme-related Lecture] "Nikkei Community	under Covid-19 pandemic, and
	current situation under Covid-19 pandemic"	effective impact of Japanese
	Lecturer : Ms. Fernanda Cobucci,	culture to deal with Covid-19.
	Beneficência Nipo-Brasileira de São Paulo	
	Mr. Leandro Ryuichi Iwamoto,	
	Presidente Gestão 2022	
	Junior Chamber International Brasil-Japão	
	1) Lecture	

	2) Q&A	
5th	[Theme-related Lecture] "Citrus Ribbon	Participants' questions were
March 15th	Project" Chobitto 19+	about what is important to
Tue.	-Coexistence and Symbiosis-	spread the spirit of coexistence
	Lecturer: : Ms. Tomoka Kai, Associate	and symbiosis in a society
	Professor, Matsuyama University	where many people are
	1) Lecture	dissatisfied with their jobs and
	2) Q&A	the impact of covid-19, and why
		such activities have spread in
		Japan.
6th	Participants from Latin-American countries:	Participants were interested in
March 16th	Japanese Farm-Stay Experience at Asakura	the life at Asakura City and they
Wed.	City, Fukushima Prefecture	said they want to visit the city
	1) Virtual Farm-Stay experience	someday.
	2) Introduction of Asakura City	
	Participants from Japan:	Questions were raised about
	Home-stay Experience in Peru	clothing, meals, and natural
	1) Interaction with local people of Nikkei	disasters.
	Community	They exchanged opinions about
	2) Virtual Home-stay experience	lifestyle difference between
	3) Virtual visit to historical and cultural facilities	Japan and Peru.
7th	[Theme-related Lecture] The World's First	Questions were raised about the
March 17th	Hydrogen Hotel – Efforts toward a decarbonized	challenges and innovations for
Thu.	Society	expanding and continuing the
	Lecturer: : Mr. Tasuo Kurosaki,	initiative, and about the
	Sales Manager, Kawasaki King Skyfront Tokyu	possibility of demonstrating it in
	REI Hotel	a foreign country. There was
	1) Lecture	also interest in the government
	2) Q&A	subsidy program.
8th	[Japanese Culture Experience] Experience of	Participants were interested in
March 18th	Japanese Festival "Bon Dance"	manners of Bon Dance and
Fri.	1) Lecture "Overview and history background of	Yukata. They enjoyed bon
	Bon Dance"	dancing with music.
	2) Dancing experience	
	3) Q&A	

	[Japanese Culture Experience] Experience of	A question was how to improve
	Japanese Radio Calisthenics	the effectiveness of Radio
	1) Lecture "Overview of Radio Calisthenics and	Calisthenics. Participants were
	its role under Covid-19 situation"	highly impressed with the ability
	2) Gymnastic exercises	to get a full-body workout with
	3) Q&A	simple movements.
9th	[Theme-related Lecture] The Great East Japan	Participants expressed their
March 18th	EarthquakeMy experience	expectations that cooperation
Fri.		between the two regions will be
		further deepened through
		disaster prevention activities.
10th	[Exchange events for the participants]	Whether or not earthquakes and
March 22nd	Consensus Building Game with Disaster	tsunamis were close at hand,
Tue.	Prevention Learning	participants were keenly
	1) Opening	interested in disaster
	2) Individual Work	preparedness and what people
	3) Group Work	do when disaster strikes.
	4) Commentary, Awards and Feedback	
11th	[Theme-related Lecture] Ogasawara Islands	Questions were raised about
March 23rd	"Ecotourism"	how to communicate
Wed.	Lecturer: Mr. Tohru Kashiwagi, Ogasawara	cooperation in environmental
	Village Office	conservation to tourists and
	1) Lecture	about the trends of foreign
	2) Q&A	visitors to Ogasawara.
		Stimulated by the discovery of a
		new aspect of Japan, the
		participants became more eager
		to visit Japan.
	[Theme-related Lecture] Hiroshima "Peace Park	Participants were inspired by
	Tour"	lecture from the A-bomb
	1) Orientation	survivor. They learnt and
	2) Hiroshima Virtual Experience	thought together what Hiroshima
	3) Word cloud	experienced and how they apply
	4) Summary	the learnings to their future lives.
12th	[Theme-related Lecture]	Questions were raised about
March 24th	"Overseas Development of Japanese	perspective of circular economy
Thu.	Companies in the School Health Field: Efforts to	and environment conservation

	Improve Clobal Senitation & Unione" and "North	as well as future business
	Improve Global Sanitation & Hygiene" and "New	as well as future business
	Initiatives during the Covid-19 pandemic".	prospects.
	Lecturer: Mr. Yuuki Kobayashi, Development	Improvement of sanitation and
	Manager, SATO Business Division Southeast	hygiene is an issue for everyday
	Asia & Bangladesh, LIXIL Corporation	life for Latin Americans and
	1) Lecture	participants had a special
	2) Q&A	interest in the topic.
13th	[Japanese Culture Experience] Zazen	Participants asked how to make
March 25th	Lecturer: Rev. Daiko Matsuyama, Deputy Head	dry landscape garden and
Fri.	Priest, Taizo-in, Myoshinji Zen Buddhist Temple	religious outlook in Japan.
	1) Explanation of Zazen (religious meditation)	The lecture helped to promote
	2) Buddhist talk, sutra reading and zazen	the understanding of Japan and
	experience	inspired participants willingness
	3) Myoshinji Taizoin temple virtual visit tour	to visit Japan.
	4) Q&A	
14th	[Theme-related Lecture] Building and	Questions were raised about
March 25th	development of ICT system and Digital	corporate SDGs activity and
Fri.	Terrestrial system in Latin America	digital innovation.
	Lecturer: : Mr. Cristiano Blandez, Head of	Introduction of Japanese
	Innovations, NEC Latin America S.A.	company's proactive approach
	1) Lecture	in Latin America was a good
	2) Q&A	opportunity to think about
		collaboration between two
		regions.
15th	Reporting session	Participants exchanged opinions
March 29th	1) Individual Work	on programs that led to
Tue.	2) Brainstorming by whole team	understanding of Japan and
	3) Whole presentation	programs that impressed with
	4) Summary by the implementing organizer	the SDGs initiatives.
		It was an opportunity to reflect
		on the whole program and to
		share plans for future activities
		that utilize the experience and
		knowledge they gained.

2. Photo Record









March 17th, 2022 [Theme-related Lecture] Kawasaki King Skyfront Tokyu REI Hotel

March 17th, 2022 [Theme-related Lecture] Kawasaki King Skyfront Tokyu REI Hotel



March 18th, 2022 [Japanese Culture Experience] Bon Dance



March 18th, 2022 [Japanese Culture Experience] Bon Dance



March 18th, 2022 [Japanese Culture Experience] Radio Calisthenics



March 18th, 2022 [Japanese Culture Experience] Radio Calisthenics







3. Feedback from participants (excerpt)

• Argentina, Working Adult

The program has provided me with insightful information. I'll apply the principles of Zazen to my daily life and the sustainability methods shown to my current job. I was surprised by the movements in Japan against discrimination. A similarity between Japanese and Argentinean companies is how many are trying to achieve SDGs; and in rural tourism, there are places here that are fomenting it too.

Venezuela, Working Adult

The program itself was a perfect opportunity to connect and learn with Japan as a country and think about ways of applying the Japanese mindset for things in our country.

Brazil, Undergraduate Student

The information provided by MOFA and JICA was really helpful to have a holistic understanding of Japan's foreign policy and its strategies in relation to the SDG themes. Some of these policies could be implemented by Japan in Latin American countries, especially those related to digitization and disaster relief measures.

Trinidad and Tobago, Working Adult

Consensus building was very impressive and I hope to implement more of it in my country. The attitudes of caring for one another are truly commendable and I hope that we can learn from this.

Barbados, Working Adult

I believe we in Barbados can learn a lot from Japan. Areas such as Disaster Awareness we can adapt better measures during our Hurricane season, Japan also has an excellent plan regarding SDGs and I would like to work alongside them to possibly integrate some of these into Barbados. Juntos was a wonderful program which greatly widened my scope and dream of one day working in Japan. Thank you very much for everything!

Brazil, Working Adult

I worked in Japan as a volunteer, during this period, I met many wonderful people, and after returning home, I lost contact with many of them. I felt inspired to show them my culture, the same way I experienced during Juntos. I desire to help them again, especially the elderly who is always alone and rarely have the opportunity to experience new things. Overall, I just want to say I am really grateful for this initiative, and congratulations for this wonderful idea and program.

Dominican Republic, Working Adult

I really enjoyed the program and for sure I will share my experience with others. This year I will be moving to Fukuoka as a MEXT scholarship grantee to start a master's degree. I will start by sharing my experience and making the program known to the candidates of this year's MEXT scholarship in my country.

♦ Jamaica, Undergraduate student

Since I am currently doing International Relations, I would love to implement these options to improve states relationships with each other and move them to willingly help one another so that we can all achieve a better home on earth.

Dominican Republic, Working Adult

Through the Juntos Program I had the opportunity to learn about Japan's strong mindset of sustainability, innovation, cooperation, inclusion, and nationalism. There are a lot of practices we, Latin and Caribbean countries, should learn from Japan, so I am really glad that I was able to take part on this program and surely be a promoter of Japanese initiatives to meet the SDGs. Thank you so much! Until next time.

• Guatemala, Undergraduate student

I loved the program. This is my first time participating in such a beautiful program that not only did I learn a lot of Japanese culture but also about their relationship with the entire world. Thanks to this program, I have become more motivated to continue studying hard to obtain a scholarship to go to Japan and study there. This program motivated me to share with my family and friends about Japanese culture and their relationship between Latin America.

• Honduras, Undergraduate student

Juntos!! was an exciting experience. Sharing with other participants and learn more about Japan and its fascinating culture, technology and much more, was really enjoyable. I'm deeply thankful for the opportunity.

Mexico, Undergraduate student

There were so many valuable experiences I gained from this program, the effort that everyone put into their presentations was amazing. I think we can all learn from the Japanese way of doing things, always giving your best effort and trying to get everyone on board. By hearing everyone's thoughts and actions I feel more motivated to follow their steps and try to do something similar for the ones around me in whatever way I can.

• Paraguay, Undergraduate student

This program has surpassed my expectations. The presented activities were very interesting, and they showed different aspects of Japan's life. Even though there are big differences from my country's (Paraguay), I was able to find similarities, especially related to people's hospitality and capacity to make us feel welcome. I posted on social media about the program every chance I had as a "thank you" to the secretariat and those who received us.

• Chile, Working adult

"I am very surprised how the Japanese society is involved in Co-Create together in sustainable development from the homes of its inhabitants, companies, organizations, academia and of course the government taking collective actions to achieve the 17 SDGs. In particular, I want to highlight the "Japan SDG Award" to recognize companies or organizations that are making outstanding efforts to achieve the SDGs." Rosa Caroca 賈洛莎, International Consultant 2030 Agenda and 17 SDGs.

4. Feedback from receiving party (excerpt)

• Host Family of Asakura City

Lodging online was the new challenge and we learned a lot. We appreciate for giving us this opportunity.

• The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

We appreciate for this opportunity to inform the activity of JICA and support for Japanese Community and relationship with Japanese Community.

Japan Bon Dance Association

We appreciate for the opportunity to introduce Japanese traditional culture and art, "Bon Dance". Participants are interested in the dance and asked us various questions actively. We are also given the opportunity to reconsider about Japanese unique culture "Bon Dance". More than 1000 kinds of dance style and Bon dance held at everywhere in Japan. We hope you could continue informing Bon dance by Juntos!! or similar program.

Lixil Corporation

I thought Juntos!! was the very meaningful program to build up good relationship between Japan and Latin America. It was great if the introduction of my company's activity was useful for the program.

5. Dissemination of participants to the public and press coverage, etc.





how important it is to be good stewards. For	are interested in Japan as I will be sharing
our own sake, and for the sake of the planet	more information with you, as it promotes the
entrusted to us. I hope to be able to go to	understanding of Japanese politics, economy,
these islands someday.	society, culture, history, foreign policy, etc.
Had a very interesting talk today about environmentally friendly entrepreneurship and a more than considerable level of self- sustainable economy. The next hotel chain, with support from the Ministry of the Environment of Japan, managed, for example, to obtain 30% of its energy from obtaining hydrogen based on plastic waste from a domestic waste processing plant c ercana as well as part of the hotel waste same. https://www.tokyuhotelsjapan.com/global/kawasaki- r/restaurant/ware See more • See original - Rate this translation	Well friends, this year I was not made to go back to Japan again but I signed up for this program to continue learning from this country, so I share with you ? Today's theme is Bon odori, the dance they usually do at festivals and that has more than a thousand variants around the country. Ageha Bijo, who is a prominent Japanese folk dance instructor and cultural ambassador of it, taught us some steps and shared the history of some dances. I did not record it because the quality was not very good but I leave you a capture of my favorite posture and I share a video of these dances that I had the opportunity to watch live when I was in Tokyo T In case you were wondering, these dances are more than a thousand years old and are believed to be a way to pay tribute to the ancestors and pray for good crops. #JUNTOS2021 #中期形式目的解释:
March 17th, 2022 (Facebook)	March 18th, 2022 (Facebook)
Had a very interesting talk today about	Well friends, this year I was not made to go
environmentally friendly entrepreneurship and a	back to Japan again but I signed up for this
more than considerable level of self-sustainable	program to continue learning from this country,
economy. The next hotel chain, with support	so I shared with you.
from the Ministry of the Environment of Japan,	Today's theme is Bon odori, the dance they
managed, for example, to obtain 30% of its	usually do at festivals and that has more than
energy from obtaining hydrogen based on plastic	a thousand variants around the country. Ageha
waste from a domestic, waste processing plant	Bijyo who is a prominent Japanese folk dance
disposal as well as part of the hotel waste same.	is instructor and cultural ambassador of it,
	taught us some steps and shared the history of
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	quality was not very good but I leave you a
	capture of my favorite posture and I share a
	video of these dances that I had the opportunity
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	In case you were wondering, these dances are
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	ancestors and pray for good crops.





April 2nd, 2022 (Instagram) Although the territory of Japan constitutes only 0.2% of the earth's surface, it accounts for 20% of the earthquakes greater than magnitude 6.0 that the planet experiences.

Faced with this scenario, it is essential that the population be educated in risk prevention methods, in order to save themselves and others from disasters of this nature.

It is from this data that the ASOBI x BOSAI initiative was born, in charge of the start-up IKUSA inc., whose mission is to change the way of teaching risk prevention through the use of technology and games, making it an instance in which all kinds of people can participate, from adults to children, to learn while having fun.

The motto of the ASOBI x BOSAI initiative is to change the feeling of "should" to a "want" to participate, and with this, to increase the number of people who survive natural disaster events. March 18th, 2022 (Facebook)

Another great lecture at the JUNTOS program Japan- Latin America and the Caribbean with Jlac Juntos.

I really liked the initiative of the Citrus Ribbon project. It is a project that was born out of the disappointment of how people with Covid-19 were being treated when the pandemic started. I wrote down some interesting things I learned and I wanted to share it with you.

When they started, they didn't have strategies and no plans whatsoever. They just had the motivation and desire to help the most vulnerable.

The logo has 3 loops that represent the places where we may meet our family and feel safe: Home, Community, and workplace or school. The logo was created during the brainstorming of the group.

The lecturer Mrs. Tomoka Kai said that she hopes in the future projects like this one won't

Together with my fellow members of the Juntos program!!! Together we had the opportunity to participate in one of these activities and it was a super fun and playful instance, in which we were able to discuss in groups different possibilities of action to finally discover the right way to act. ASOBI x BOSAI seemed to me a great initiative, and I would love it to be replicated in Chilean territory, since we have a seismic activity of very similar intensity to the Japanese one.	be needed because we'll live in a better society. And one of her advices was: Don't "create" (force) kindness, we all have kindness in ourselves; we can be kind in the simplest of things: a tiny conversation. This projects really inspires me! Thank you for showing us this.
A/15 Peru trip online From home scenery to kood, the local atmosphere that I ve never feit in any online events so far! This is also a reference for upcoming different cultural exchange events. Local Japanese people's thoughts on Japan Once again, it's a challenge to think about our own culture See more 0 se orginal flate the tembero 1 Second the temperon of temperon of the temperon of temperon of the temperon of the temperon of temperon	<text><text><text><text><text><image/><image/></text></text></text></text></text>
March 18th, 2022 (Facebook)	March 11th, 2022 (Facebook)
3/15 Peru trip online	It is my pleasure to inform you that I have been
From home scenery to food, the local	selected for the "JUNTOS!! Japan-Latin
atmosphere that I've never felt in any online	America and the Caribbean Exchange
event so far!	Program" and it is an honor for me to be able
This is also a reference for upcoming different	to represent my country. The activities are scheduled for the whole
cultural exchange events. Local Japanese people's thoughts in Japan.	month so they will keep you updated on the
Once again, it's a challenge to think about our	topic. We started today with a presentation by
own culture.	the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan.
	I only have to thank the Secretary of
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,

Togetherness!! for the opportunity and ask
whoever reads this to always fight for their
dreams.

6. Action plan after the Program

- Share learnt Japanese culture and relationship with Latin America to my family and friends.
- Attend another programs which is able to learn about Japan.
- Study abroad in Japan. In order to get the scholarship, I will continue studying hard.
- ◆After the Covid-19 pandemic, visit Japan with friends who met thought this program. (Argentina)
- ◆Spread the new information gained to our client. (Argentina)
- ◆Share what I have learned with others in order to enhance our preparedness in the event of a natural disaster. (El Salvador)
- Strengthen the relationship with Embassy of the own country and study more about both Japanese people and SDGs. (El Salvador)
- ♦ Share expression method of Japanese culture and art with community of future artists. (Panama)
- I want to teach to children what I learnt, peace and discipline, respect for ancestors who build up Nikkei Community and their roots as a future teacher. (Panama)
- ◆Plan to implement consensus-building game method in my country. (Trinidad and Tobago)

◆ Since I am involved in international relationship work, I will use what I learn to my work such as spirit of mutual assistance and willingness to help each other, and improve mutual relationship in the state. (Jamaica)

◆Begin by sharing this experience and informing candidates for this year's MEXT scholarship in my country about the program. (Dominican Republic)

♦As a foreign study student, I stand at the side of helping implementation of Juntos!! program.(Dominican Republic)

Implement the research program to use technology for secure data of security at medical science field. (Brazil)

◆Plan and implement a study group on cultural concepts of science and nature in Japan and the West. (Brazil)

- Check embassy and consulate websites regularly.
- ♦ Continue studying about Japan, since I can learn a lot about how to achieve SDGs from Japan.
- Study Japanese language.

♦Write and present a master thesis regarding Japan's international cooperation policy. Continue researching about Japan.

◆Continue teaching Japanese diplomatic policy, history, geography, tourist destinations as a professor of Tourism Geography and International Politics courses in Rosario National University. (Lectures are usually twice a year in September or October.)

♦ As a member of research group studying International Politics and Economy, share the experience of this program with the graduate student members and inform about Japan to them.

Visit Asakura city for Green tourism, Kawasaki King Skyfront Tokyu REI Hotel and Hiroshima city someday.

◆Keep up my antennae for the dissemination of such events, and continue to have opportunities for cultural exchange with Latin America even after the program is over. (Japan)

♦As soon as the program is end, clarify my future vision to work at a Japanese company which is active in the Latin America and the world. (Japan)

Implementing Organization: JTB Corp.