

JENESYS2021 Japan-Malaysia Online Exchange (Women's Empowerment and Enterprise) Report

1. Program Overview

【Objective】 This program was conducted with the main objective of having youth from Malaysia, who are interested in Japanese culture, society, and politics, deepen their understanding of various fields in Japan through intercultural exchange and visits to related organizations, and to build networks between Japan and Malaysia.

【Participants】 Total: 60 high school students, undergraduate students, and working youths from Malaysia.

【Location】 Kagoshima Pref., Tokyo, Aichi Pref., Gifu Pref.

【Program Schedule】

Date Location	Program contents	Participants' questions and reactions
Number of participants for the following day: 52 in total (Jointly with other programs)		
September 7, 2021 Hioki City, Kagoshima Pref.	【Webinar, Q&A Session】 Friendship City Lecture and Exchange 1. Lecture “Hioki city & Malaysia: The History of International Exchange” Lecturer: Ms. Nurulhuda binti Shafiee, Coordinator for International Relations 2. Q&A	Everyone listened with great interest to the introduction of an area not well known in Malaysia. The exchange going on in the chat room was also very active. There were many questions about how to get to Hioki City, about samurai, and if Hioki City is Halal friendly.
Number of participants during the following 5 days: 8 (Jointly with other programs)		
March 17~, 2022	【Video Viewing】 1. Welcome Address 2. Study Japanese Culture in Kyoto 3. Peace Tour in Hiroshima 4. Message from Minamisanriku	To foster better understanding of Japan, participants watched a video about Japan and the program before they participated in the main program.

<p>March 23, 2022 Tokyo</p>	<p>【Orientation】 【Webinar, Q&A session】</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Orientation 2. Lecture “Japanese Society and Culture” Lecturer: Ms. ANDRADE Hisami 3. Orientation in groups 	<p>The orientation began with the participants correctly understanding their role and mission in the program. At the beginning of the lecture, the participants were very pleased with the brief introduction of sakura (cherry blossoms). The lecture was full of pictures and illustrations, and the participants listened with great interest to the extensive introduction to Japanese society and culture. They were particularly impressed by the talk on Japanese women's advancement in society and the division of household chores with their husbands at home. The main questions asked were: "Is there any research on men doing housework and cooking?"; "Why are there so many private universities in Japan?"; "I would like to know more about 'Soshoku-kei' people"; "Are social and economic issues the reason for the declining birth rate?"; and "Can we expect more educational exchanges between Japan and Malaysia in the future?" They also asked specific questions about Japanese dialects, international marriages, and the problems that children with a parent or parents that are foreign nationals face in Japanese society.</p>
<p>March 24, 2022 Tokyo</p>	<p>【Observation】</p> <p>Virtual tour of the National Diet Building</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Opening remarks, Lecturer introductions 2. Virtual Tour (Tour using slides and videos) “The Virtual tour of the National Diet Building” Lecturer: Mr. NIWANO Taichi, CEO, Mikikiitos 3. Q&A session 	<p>The participants were so engaged in the easy-to-understand explanations, interwoven with slides and videos, that it seemed as if the time allocated for the visit was not nearly enough. Many questions were asked during the Q&A session. The main questions were: "Why does the person who takes the proceedings (stenographer) do it by hand?"; "What is the relationship between the ruling party and the opposition party?"; "There is an Emperor's Chair, but what are the penalties if someone breaks the rules of sitting in it?"; "Has the Diet</p>

	4. Commemorative photo	building been renovated before?"; "I believe Japan is a constitutional monarchy, but how are the roles of the monarch and emperor seen in Japan?"; and "Is there a dress code for visiting the National Diet Building?"
March 25, 2022 City of Nagoya, Aichi Pref. Fuwa District, Gifu Pref.	【Exchange with Female Entrepreneurs】 1. Presentations by each entrepreneur - Ms. MAKINO Kanako, Representative, DiVE.tv - Ms. SANBORN Yuko, Representative, Goat Design - Ms. IKEMIYA Kiyomi, Representative, moily 2. Individual exchanges with the entrepreneurs (free discussion, Q&A session, etc.) 3. General summary, Closing	Overall, the participants were able to relate to the lecturer's talks and expressed their gratitude and admiration during the individual exchanges with each lecturer. They also asked many questions and enjoyed the exchanges very much. The main questions asked were as follows -When you were a TV reporter, what was your most difficult job? How did you overcome it? -What kind of undergraduate degree do you need to have to become a reporter? -Do you want your own children to become entrepreneurs? -How has the spread of COVID-19 affected revenue? -Do you only sell your products in Japan? -Why do you deal in Cambodian baskets?
March 29, 2022 Tokyo	【Workshop】 【Reporting Session】 1. Workshop ▪ Action plan formulation ▪ Presentation preparations for the reporting session 2. Reporting Session ▪ Opening remarks ▪ Presentations ▪ Review Ms. ANDRADE Hisami 3. Announcement from JICE, Closing	【Workshop】 The participants had nearly finished the PowerPoint presentation by the previous day, and so the official workshop ended quickly, with everyone simply doing their final checks of each slide. The rest of the time was spent freely with the participants exchanging opinions and getting to know each other within the group. 【Reporting Session】 The presentation was divided up and presented by the participants with confidence. All the group members felt that the presentation materials had been well prepared and that it had been a fulfilling reporting session.

2. Program Photos

 <p>Bandar Persahabatan Bandar Hioki telah menandatangani Perjanjian Bandar Persahabatan bersama Majlis Bandaraya Subang Jaya (MBSJ) 2012 28 Ogos 2012 (MPSJ, Malaysia) 29 Oktober 2012 (Bandar Hioki, Jepun)</p>	
<p>September 7, 2021 【Webinar, Q&A session】 Lecture</p>	<p>September 7, 2021 【Webinar, Q&A session】 Lecture</p>
	
<p>September 7, 2021 【Webinar, Q&A Session】 Q&A</p>	<p>September 7, 2021 【Webinar, Q&A Session】 Group photo</p>
 <p>Day1 Today's Timetable Japan Standard Time 4:00 pm Opening / Joint Orientation Welcome Speech Ms. KOBAYASHI Hikari 4:15 pm Japanese Society and Culture Ms. Hisami Andrade 5:45 pm Exchange in Each Group (Breakout Room)</p>	 <p>Polite Bowing as an act of non-verbal communication Meaning and types of bowing: - Welcome - Thank you - Hello - Good-bye - Excuse me, (light bow) - Show respect. - I am very sorry, (deep bow) Angle of bowing: Degree of politeness</p>
<p>March 23, 2022 【Orientation】</p>	<p>March 23, 2022 【Webinar, Q&A Session】</p>

	
<p>March 24, 2022 【Observation】 Virtual tour of the National Diet Building</p>	<p>March 25, 2022 【Exchange with Female Entrepreneurs】</p>
	
<p>March 29, 2022 【Workshop】</p>	<p>March 29, 2022 【Reporting Session】</p>
 <p>March 29, 2022 【Reporting Session】 Group photo</p>	

3. Voices from Participants (excerpt)

◆ Undergraduate Student

The program was really eye-opening for me as I've never been to Japan before. But after joining this program, my desire to go there and learn Japanese came back and it became my motivation again. Thank you for the excellent program.

◆ Undergraduate Student

Online programmes like this are very interesting where sharing session about Japan and moderate casual environment and I hope more programmes would be done such as livestreaming visiting

interesting places in Hioki and Japan.

◆ **Working Youth**

I love the program as it gives me a lot of information about cities in Japan that I don't really aware of before. I suggest that more cities will be involved in this program. I would also like to suggest your esteemed organization to recruit volunteers from Malaysia to make this collaboration more interesting.

◆ **Working Youth**

Thank you very much for the informative programme. The lecturers, organizers and staff from JICE were all very professional, friendly, and were able to provide good answers to the participants. However, I would like to suggest that the time of the program be moved to more accessible time for participants, for example 4 - 6pm Malaysian time so that it would be easier to attend.

◆ **Working Youth**

I love the program and the engagement between JICE staffs and participants.

◆ **Working Youth**

Please create more topic like this for public age 30 and above as most of us are eager to understand Japan more for our academic and official purpose.

4. Voice from Japanese Locals (excerpt)

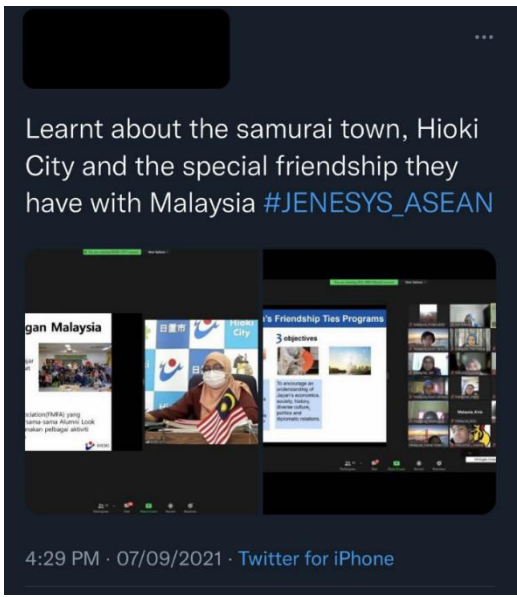

◆ **Lecturer**

Since I knew exactly who the participants would be, I was able to prepare enough materials for the lecture to a certain extent. Unfortunately, I couldn't see the students' reactions directly during the lecture because it was held online, but I was relieved to know from the reports of each group on the last day that they had fully understood the lecture content.

◆ **Lecturer**

Although I was only involved as the guide, it meant a lot that the Malaysian participants showed interest in the tour, and that we were able to be interactive, asking questions and using the Chat function. Not being able to speak English, the amount of information I could provide was limited. However, this experience has reminded me of the importance of English, and how I could be of service to more people. Thank you so much for this amazing opportunity.

5. Dissemination by the participants

	
<p>September 7, 2021 (Twitter)</p> <p>Learnt about the samurai town, Hioki City and the special friendship they have with Malaysia</p>	<p>September 7, 2021 (Instagram)</p> <p>Got another new thing learned today with all Malaysian n Japanese participation. Abundant information I got from this online program. Even though we weren't be able to meet personally, I can get enough knowledge u want to share with us. Thus, too many kindnesses and happiness, the participants very knowledgeable abt Japanese n really well communicate in Japanese Language. Thanks a million to the speakers and all those involved in managing this beneficial program. Hoping one fine day I can visit Japan and see the amazing surrounding myself.</p>

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DAY 3: Exchange Program with Female Entrepreneurs

Kudos to all three powerful women!

Makino-san - Create Awareness & Reduce Suicidal Rate in Japan
Sanborn-san - A mother of two, starting own business from scratch without any support fund

Ikemiya-san - Moily's shop was established to help people of Cambodia earn a living #zeropoverty

#Batch25

#JENESYS_ASEAN

#JENESYS2021

#JICE



March 26, 2022 (Facebook)

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JENESYS2021 Japan-Malaysia Exchange for Women's Empowerment and Enterprise (organised by Japan International Cooperation Centre JICE)

So today I've completed Day 1, 2 and 3 of the programme!

Day 1: Introduction to Japanese culture and society

Day 2: Tour of the Japanese Diet Building in Tokyo

Day 3: Cultural exchange and lecture by 3 female entrepreneurs in Japan.

When I signed up for this programme, I wasn't expecting to meet a group of very supportive and friendly JICE members as well as my interesting fellow participants who came from various backgrounds such as in the education sector, law, and marketing.

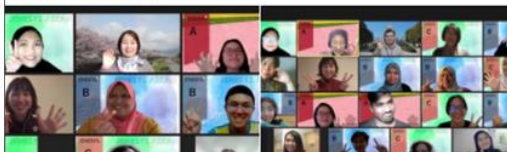
I'm not that much of an extrovert myself, so getting into the groove of talking to new people is always a push for me to get out of my narrow social boundaries. Luckily most of the members are pretty chatty so it wasn't all that awkward to start conversations!

Apart from the informative lectures, the biggest benefit I've gotten is the rich social interaction between fellow participants and the organisers in the program, especially my group C coordinator Ando-san who has been extremely kind and patient in answering our questions.

All in all, it's been an interesting 3 days learning about Japan from multiple perspectives, and the last day will be a group project and presentation. If anyone else would like to join JENESYS online program in the future, do look out for news about it in the Japanese Embassy in Malaysia FB page.

Apart from getting to know a bunch of interesting people, you'll learn things about Japan based on the theme of the JENESYS program for that year. The one I joined is about female empowerment, but you also get other interesting tours. For example from my virtual tour of the Japanese Diet building I got to know that there are 3 statues in the building with important political figures in Japan, but there is an empty pedestal which is supposedly left empty for several reasons. One of the explanations is because politics is always imperfect, so continuous reform and change is needed for the betterment of society. Hopefully in the future, the fourth pedestal will be filled by a female politician as a symbol of change for the country 🙏

#JENESYS #JENESYS_ASEAN



March 25, 2022 (Facebook)

#JENESYS

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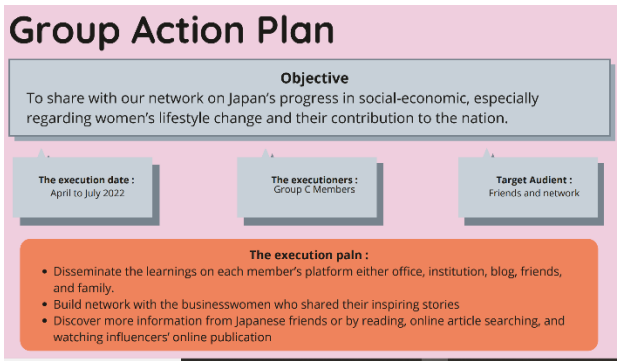
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#JENESYS

6. Action plan presentations at the final reporting session

 <p>Group Action Plan</p> <p>Objective To share with our network on Japan's progress in social-economic, especially regarding women's lifestyle change and their contribution to the nation.</p> <p>The execution date : April to July 2022</p> <p>The executioners : Group C Members</p> <p>Target Audient : Friends and network</p> <p>The execution pain :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disseminate the learnings on each member's platform either office, institution, blog, friends, and family. Build network with the businesswomen who shared their inspiring stories Discover more information from Japanese friends or by reading, online article searching, and watching influencers' online publication 	<p>WHY: To share with our network on Japan's progress in social-economic, especially regarding women's lifestyle change and their contribution to the nation.</p> <p>WHEN: April to July, 2022</p> <p>WHO: Group members</p> <p>TO WHOM: Friends and associates</p> <p>HOW:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Disseminate the learnings on each member's platforms (office, institution, blog, friends, and family) -Build a network with female entrepreneurs -Discover and study more information on Japan from friends, materials, and through the internet.
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Implementation agency : Japan International Cooperation Center (JICE)