

Juntos!! Japan-Latin America and the Caribbean Exchange Program Online Alumni Meeting (Theme: Japanese-language education) Report

1. Program Overview

[Objective] The main objective of this meeting was to introduce the on-site initiatives by Japanese institutions to the alumni who participated in the Juntos!! Japan-Latin America and the Caribbean Exchange Program so as to promote understanding of the Japanese language and culture and to think about the trends of Japanese language education in the Latin America and the Caribbean region.

[Participants] Alumni of Juntos!! Japan-Latin America and the Caribbean Exchange Program (participants of FY2015 to FY2021)

Total of 8 alumni (from Argentina, Uruguay, El Salvador, Guatemala, Paraguay, and Mexico, including undergraduates, graduate students, and working youths)

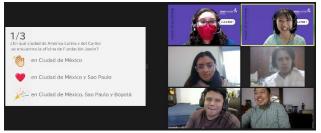
[Program Schedule]

Date		Participants' questions and reactions
Location	Program contents	(number of participants)
		, , ,
November	(1) Introduction to the program	(2) Lecture
15, 2022	(2) Lecture	A Lecture was given on the projects
Mexico	"Forging links between Japan	conducted by the Japan Foundation in
	and the world"	Mexico and the work that the lecturer was
	Ms. ANA SOLÍS, Cultural	engaged in as a cultural project coordinator.
	Activities Coordinator, The Japan	(3) Workshop
	Foundation Mexico	A workshop was carried out on a
	(3) Workshop	participatory approach where the lecturer
	"Japanese Language Education	explained the current state of Japanese
	in Latin America and the	language education, including differences in
	Caribbean"	the characteristics of Japanese language
	Ms. SATO Shiho, Japanese	teachers from region to region, the motives
	Language Education Advisor,	to start learning Japanese, and the age
	The Japan Foundation Mexico	groups of learners. Participants actively
	(4) Reporting Session after being	participated in the workshop and worked
	divided into two groups	together.
	(5) Q&A Session	(5) Q&A session
	(6) Commemorative Photo	As a way to carry out Japanese Cultural

Introduction frequently without spending a lot of money, several ideas were proposed, such as sharing materials already available in Latin America and the Caribbean with neighboring countries instead of obtaining materials and personnel from Japan, cooperating with people who are working independently to promote Japanese culture in each region, and encouraging cultural exchange by returning to face-to-face project activities.

2. Program Photos





Lecture by Ms. Ana Solis, cultural project coordinator

Workshop conducted by Ms. SATO Shiho, Japanese-Language Specialist





Reporting Session

Commemorative photo with lecturer

3. Voices from Participants (excerpt)

Working Youth (Uruguay)

It is a very good program. I expect the program to be carried out face to face.

♦ Working Youth (Mexico)

It was good to have been conducted in Spanish. I was reunited with my fellow alumni from other programs.

♦ Working Youth (Argentine)

It was good to have known how to accelerate studying languages in Latin American countries, including the roots of the learners.

University Student (Argentina)

I think the participants were actively involved with the program and gave a good presentation. I'm very satisfied to be part of this program.

♦ Vocational School Student (Paraguay)

I'm satisfied with the Online Alumni Meeting of the program. I think we had a good exchange of participants.

4. Voices from the Receiving Parties (excerpt)

♦ Lecturer

It was a great opportunity for the participants of Juntos!! to know about the initiatives conducted by the Japan Foundation in Mexico. Please let us know if you have similar events.

5. Disseminations by the participants



November 15, 2022 (Facebook)

[How do you promote language education?]

JICE held a reunion with Juntos!! alumni on 15th

Nov. 2022!

We had guests from The Japan Foundation Mexico.

The Japanese Language Expert Ms. SATO Shiho and a coordinator of cultural activities Ms. Ana Solís gave us a lecture about Japanese Language Education in Latin America and the Caribbean region.

The alumni offered a variety of ideas on who to target and how to plan to promote language learning.

Thank you all for the lively exchange of ideas.

6. Presentations at the Reporting Session (excerpt)

■ Group 1: "Japan in Anime"

Título del proyecto	JAPONÉS EN ANIME
sinopsis	Crear un proyecto basado en capítulos de anime, donde se analice diálogos en clases y crear capítulos de anime ex profeso para enseñar idioma japonés con personajes populares de anime.
Lugar	En Línea y a través de redes sociales.
Público meta	Adolescentes entre 15 y 18 años de edad que están interesados en el anime pero no estudian japonés.
Colaboradores	Fundación Japón, JICA, Exbecarios JUNTOS!, Youtubers de ANIME
Fruto o efecto	Mayor accesibilidad al estudio del idioma. Los adolescentes transforman su gusto por el anime en el estudio de japonés. Los adolescentes participantes podrán saber más japonés hablado

1. Overview

The Japanese used in each anime episode is analyzed, and popular anime characters are used to teach Japanese.

2. Effects

- It leads to the improvement of Japaneselanguage education.
- It turns viewers' interest in anime to Japanese language as well.
- It boosts the first step toward Japanese-language education.
- It helps in the study of Japanese as a spoken language.

■ **Group 2:** "Introduction to Japanese Culture"

Título del proyecto	Presentación cultural del Japón
Sinopsis	La llegada se plantearía desde algunos personajes de shows para niños/as, criaturas del folclore japonés (sobre todo con Yokai), curso de origami, videojuegos, teatro con titeres (Bunraku), exponer películas.
Lugar	En todos los países, en escuelas públicas.
Público meta	Escolares.
Colaboradores	Voluntarios de JICA, participantes de JUNTOS!, promotor de cultura japonesa (ejemplo: empresa) promocionando eventos trimestrales o de forma más regular. Embajada del país a puertas abiertas para grupo de niños o algún centro cultural con muestras al respecto sobre Japón.
Fruto o efecto	Sembrar semillas en los Niño/as para generar interés en la cultura japonesa. Entablar puentes culturales entre Latinoamérica y Japón.

1. Overview

Various materials are used, such as characters appearing in TV programs for children, creatures (especially specters) appearing in Japanese children's stories, origami lessons, video games, puppet shows (*bunraku*), and movies.

2. Effects

- It plants seeds to get children interested in Japanese culture.
- It encourages children to play a role as a cultural bridge between the Latin America and the Caribbean region and Japan in the future.

Implementation agency: Japan International Cooperation Center (JICE)