



## Juntos!! Japan-Latin America and the Caribbean Exchange Program Online Inbound Program (Theme: Marine Conservation) Report

### 1. Program Overview

【Objective】 This program was conducted to provide an opportunity for alumni who had participated in past "Juntos!! Japan-Latin America and the Caribbean Exchange Programs" to deepen their interest in and understanding of Japan's efforts in marine conservation and have them explore the use of Japan's advanced technologies in their respective countries.

【Participants】 Juntos!! Japan-Latin America and the Caribbean Exchange Program alumni (participants from FY2015 to FY2021)

(undergraduate students, graduate students, and working youth from the following countries: Argentina, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela) 20 participants


### 【Program Schedule】

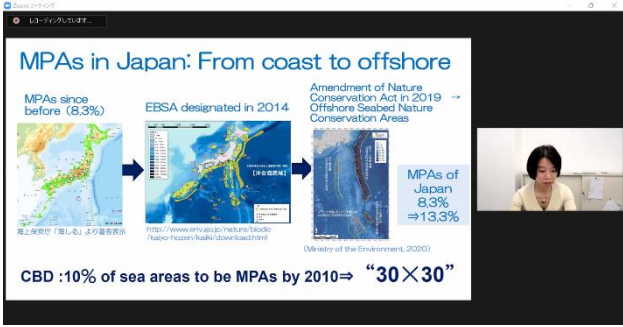
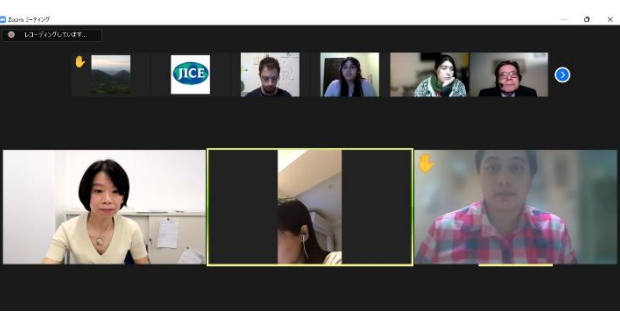
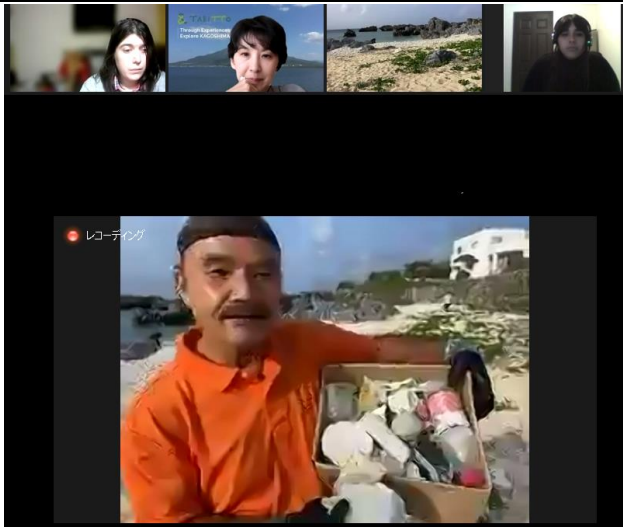

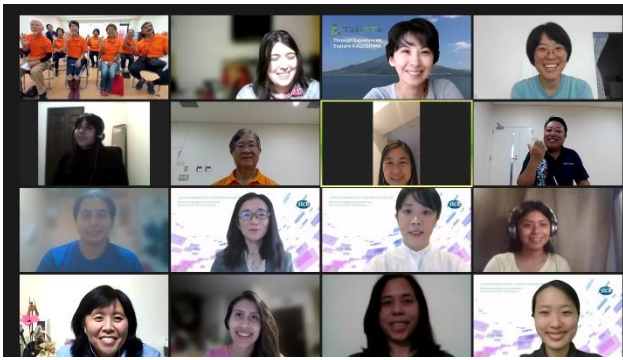

Date Location	Program contents	Participants' questions and reactions (number of participants)
Day 1 October 11, 2022	<b>【Orientation】 【Workshop】</b> 1. Greetings 2. Overview of the Juntos!! Program 3. Programs by group (Self-introductions, Choosing roles) 4 groups 4. Group photo	During the orientation, participants listened to an overview of the objectives of the program, the roles and missions of the participants, and other information. In the programs by group, everyone introduced themselves in each group and discussed the information to be included in their presentations at the reporting session on the final day, as well as the roles to be played by each member.(14participants)
Day 2 October 12, 2022	<b>【Theme Related Lecture, Q&amp;A Session】</b> “Conservation and Sustainable Use of the Ocean” Lecturer: Prof. WAKITA Kazumi, Department of Marine Science and Ocean Engineering,	Participants listened attentively to the lecture, as concerns about wastewater inflow into rivers are high in all countries due to it being a major cause of marine pollution. During the Q&A

Shizuoka Pref	<p>School of Marine Science and Technology, Tokai University</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lecture and video on Japan's policies and initiatives in marine conservation and sustainable use of the ocean</li> <li>2. Q&amp;A session</li> <li>3. Presentation preparations for the Reporting Session (optional)</li> </ol>	<p>session, participants asked about Japan's treatment measures for domestic and industrial wastewater, and how obligated companies are to comply with carbon neutral initiatives.(16participants)</p>
<p>Day 3 October 13, 2022 Oshima-gun Kagoshima Pref.</p>	<p>【 Observation, Lecture, Exchange of Opinions, Q&amp;A Session】 Yoron Island, Oshima-gun, Kagoshima Pref.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Observation Live introduction to the beach cleaning activities of Unjami* Guide: Ms. NAKAJO Kanako, Kagoshima Navigator, BIROU LLC &amp; Tabitto</li> <li>2. Theme related lecture “Marine waste from the eyes of Unjami” Lecturer: MR. ATA Hisashi, Director, Volunteer Organization “Unjami”</li> <li>3. Theme related lecture “Measures taken towards marine plastic waste around Yoron Island” Lecturer: MR. HIKARI Toshiki, Section Chief, Environment Division, Yoron Town</li> <li>4. Theme related lecture “Introduction to the current state of marine coral reefs on Yoron Island” Lecturer: Ms. IKEDA Kana, General Manager, NPO Ocean Restoration Network</li> <li>5. Q&amp;A session</li> <li>6. Presentation preparations for the Reporting Session (optional)</li> </ol> <p>*Unjami : Volunteer beach cleanup group made up of volunteer residents of Yoron Town</p>	<p>Participants listened with great interest to the efforts of the local government, volunteer groups, and NPOs working on Yoron Island with the common goal of "protecting the island's environment." There were many technical questions from a variety of perspectives, such as "how to dispose of garbage that cannot be disposed of on the island," "whether the gas generated when collected waste is burned is reused," "into how many categories drifting waste is sorted," and "what percentage of waste is recycled or reused."(13participants)</p>

Day 4 October 14, 2022	<p>【Workshop】【Reporting Session】</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Group discussions Themes:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Our knowledge and activities related to the theme prior to participating in the program (prior knowledge of marine conservation and personal knowledge of such activities)</li> <li>- Our learnings and discoveries during the program (new discoveries about Japan and the people of Japan)</li> <li>- What can we, as Juntos!! alumni, do as a group with your newly acquired knowledge?</li> <li>-How to take advantage of the group network created during the program to make the most of our experience.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Group presentations (4 groups)</li> <li>Review Prof. WAKITA Kazumi, School of Marine Science and Technology, Tokai University</li> <li>Group photo</li> </ol>	<p>During the workshop, participants shared their findings and learnings from the program, as well as ideas for future activities they can undertake to make the most of what they had learned.</p> <p>In the Reporting Session, each group made a presentation based on the theme. (refer to pg.6, Presentations at the Reporting Session) The reviewer offered messages of encouragement and support for the participants' points of view and future activity plans.(11participants)</p>
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## 2. Program Photos

	
October 11, 2022 【Orientation】	October 11, 2022 【Orientation】 Programs by group

	
<p>October 12, 2022 【Theme Related Lecture, Q&amp;A Session】 “Conservation and Sustainable Use of the Ocean”</p>	<p>October 12, 2022 【Theme Related Lecture, Q&amp;A Session】 Q&amp;A session</p>
	
<p>October 13, 2022 【Observation】 Live feed of volunteer group's cleanup activities along Yoron Island beaches</p>	<p>October 13, 2022 【Lecture】 Ms. IKEDA, NPO Ocean Restoration Network</p>
	
<p>October 13, 2022 【Group Photo】</p>	<p>October 14, 2022 【Reporting Session】 Participants sharing their findings during the program</p>

### 3. Voices from Participants (excerpt)

#### ◆ Vocational School Student (Argentina)

The program structure, lecture materials and content were good, and I was able to better understand the program because of the very helpful answers to my questions.

#### ◆ Undergraduate Student (Panama)

I thought this was a good way to build relationships among alumni and deepen our knowledge of Japan at the same time.

#### ◆ Undergraduate Student (Costa Rica)

It was a very interesting and important topic, and the program was very well organized and time managed. It was great to be able to see the different places visited during the virtual tour. I imagine it would have been clearer and more beautiful if I had had better reception.

#### ◆ Other (Peru)

The theme of marine conservation was very interesting. I also learned a lot about Yoron Island and hope to actually visit there someday.

### 4. Voices from the Receiving Parties (excerpt)

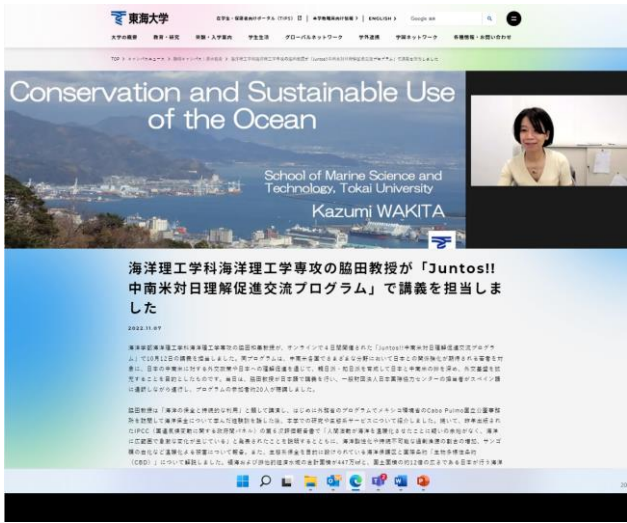
#### ◆ Lecturer

The participants were enthusiastic, and there was sufficient time for the Q&A session, which I found very satisfying, and the comments from the participants were instructive for me as well.





### 5. Disseminations by the participants, articles, etc.

	
October 13, 2022 (Participant's blog) Post about the opinion exchange with Latin	October 13, 2022 (Facebook) Cooperating organization's webpage



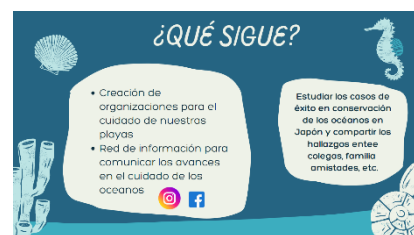
America and the Caribbean	Post about their cooperation with the program
	<p>November 7, 2022 (Tokai University webpage)</p> <p>Professor Wakita (Department of Marine Science and Ocean Engineering, School of Marine Science and Technology) conducted a lecture as part of the "Juntos!! Japan-Latin America and the Caribbean Exchange Program."</p> <p>Professor Kazumi Wakita (Department of Marine Science and Ocean Engineering, School of Marine Science and Technology) gave a lecture on October 12 during the 4-day online "Juntos!! Japan-Latin America and the Caribbean Exchange Program." The program is targeted at youths in Latin America and the Caribbean who are expected to strengthen relations with Japan in a variety of fields. Through the promotion of understanding of Japan and its foreign policies toward Latin America and the Caribbean, the program aims to foster supporters and experts of Japan, deepen ties between Japan and Latin America and the Caribbean, and expand diplomatic foundations. On the day of the program, Professor Wakita gave a lecture in Japanese, which was interpreted into Spanish by a representative of the Japan International Cooperation Center and attended by approximately 20 program participants.</p> <p>...</p>

## 6. Presentations at the Reporting Session (excerpt)

Group 1	
<p>■ Theme “Marine conservation and related activities”</p>	
<div>  <div> <p><b>Conocimientos previos o actividades relacionadas sobre “Conservación de los Océanos”</b> Ninguno de los miembros contaba con conocimientos previos sobre el tema, pero nos parecía interesante y atractivo el tema.</p> <p><b>Aprendizajes sobre Japón durante el programa</b> El cuidado que tienen sobre sus playas no solo pensando en el beneficio propio sino las repercusiones que tiene en diferentes partes del mundo. Conocimiento de la basura en el Pacífico. Tipos de residuos no orgánicos hay en Japón.</p> <p><b>Qué podemos hacer como grupo</b> Aprovechar al máximo la red de contactos creada como ex participantes del programa “Juntos”. Difundir lo aprendido en el programa para crear conciencia en las personas sobre el cuidado de los océanos. Unirse a la recolección de desechos locales y aplicar en nuestras familias las 4 R: reducir el uso del plástico, reutilizar, reciclar y rechazar.</p> </div> </div>	
<p>Although we had no prior knowledge of the topic, we always found it to be an interesting and fascinating theme. We learned that activities to protect oceans and beaches from marine waste should not only be aimed at protecting just the beaches in front of you, but should also consider the impact of such activities on other parts of the world. From now on, we would like to disseminate what we have learned in this program through social media and other means to raise awareness about marine conservation, and at the same time, we would like to practice 4R** activities for plastic waste, starting with the ones we are familiar with.</p> <p>**4Rs: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Refuse</p>	
Group 2	
<p>■ Theme: “Knowledge and experience in marine conservation issues”</p>	
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<p>Our prior knowledge of the topic was limited to the existence of international cooperation to protect sea turtles, activities and surveys in which the general public participates as volunteers, and the impact of microplastic waste on the oceans. Through this program, we learned about the social impact (in a positive sense) of marine conservation, collaboration between the private sector and government, and the impact on the ecosystem. In the future, we would like to participate in activities of NGOs and other organizations related to the ocean, reduce our use of plastic products, and become more aware of the importance of a healthier lifestyle.</p>	

### Group 3

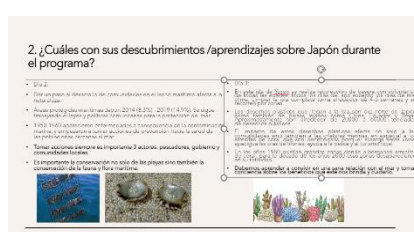
- Theme: "Prior knowledge and findings and learnings about the program and future activities"



In terms of the theme, we had prior knowledge that the amount of plastic waste collected from the ocean is very little, that most marine conservation activities are conducted by private organizations, that a campaign to improve the environment of the Gulf of Panama has been underway in Panama since 2012, and that a variety of public and private organizations are involved in marine conservation activities. Through this program, we learned that in Japan, people in various positions are involved in marine conservation, from fishermen to NGO/government employees, that there are community-based beach cleanup groups such as Unjami in which people with various backgrounds participate, and that the environment is also a priority in pearl cultivation. Moving forward we would like to disseminate the progress of our conservation activities on social media and learn more about successful examples of marine conservation-related activities in Japan and share them with friends and family.

### Group 4

- Theme: "Findings and learnings about Japan gained during the program"



In terms of the theme, we had prior knowledge that information was shared through the media, especially in the summer, about the pollution caused by human generated garbage and that people should refrain from using disposable tableware, and we also knew that volunteer activities for beach cleanups were being conducted. We also had prior knowledge that in Argentina there are regular meetings on marine conservation, especially in Patagonia, and that in Ecuador there is a program called Mingas to raise awareness about marine conservation. Through this program, we learned that in Japan, marine protection laws are being developed and the area of protected marine sites is increasing, that the involvement of fishermen, the government, and the community in marine conservation activities is always important, that the protection of marine ecosystems is just as important as the protection of beaches, that Yoron Island conducts cleanup activities, that the marine waste washed up on Yoron Island comes not just from the North of Japan but also from



other countries, and that we should be more aware of the various benefits we humans receive from marine resources and should create a healthy relationship with the ocean. We plan to use social media to disseminate information about the importance of protecting the oceans and the need to be aware of marine waste and the need to clean them up. We would also like to show our support by endorsing the policies of various countries regarding marine conservation.

**Implementation agency: Japan International Cooperation Center (JICE)**