



Student Conference on Juntos!! 2022 Japan-Latin America and the Caribbean Exchange Program Report (Target Countries: Latin America and the Caribbean)

1. Program Overview

【Objectives】 This student conference was implemented for past participants in the inbound and outbound programs of the “Juntos!! Japan-Latin America and the Caribbean Exchange Program” to learn about social issues faced by countries around the world through cases in Japan. The participants not only broadened their perspective on the future, but also built networks with other participants that transcended beyond inbound and outbound programs.

【Participants】

Total: 4 international students studying at universities and graduate schools in Japan from Argentina, Dominican Republic, and Brazil who participated in past Juntos!! inbound programs (FY2015 to FY2021).

Total: 2 Japanese working youth who participated in past Juntos!! outbound programs (FY2015 to FY2021)

【Location】 Kakegawa City in Shizuoka

【Program Schedule】

■ Pre-study Program

January 20–21 **【Video Viewing】** Program overview and locations for “Orientation Juntos!! 2022 Japan-Latin America and the Caribbean Exchange Program”

■ Main Exchange Program

Saturday, January 21 **【Orientation】**

【Observation, Experience, Exchange】 Kiwi Fruit Country Japan

Sunday, January 22 **【Observation, Experience】** Kakegawa Castle Ninomaru Palace, Kakegawa Castle Ninomaru Art of Museum, Kakegawa Castle Ninomaru Tea Room

【Workshop】 Theme: “Connecting Local Resources to the Future” at public service corporation Dainippon Hotokusya*

*Note: The Company conducts activities to spread the teachings of Sontoku Ninomiya, who is known as a pioneer of village revitalization. The large auditorium is designated as a national important cultural property.

【Reporting Session】 “Inbound Business Proposals Utilizing Local Resources”

【Commentary】 Mr. HIRANO Koshi, owner of Kiwi Fruit Country Japan and member of the Kakegawa Tourism Association

2. Program Photos



January 21 【Observation, Experience, Exchange】 Kiwi Fruit Country Japan



January 21 【Observation, Experience, Exchange】 Kiwi Fruit Country Japan



January 22 【Observation, Experience】
Kakegawa Castle Ninomaru Art of Museum



January 22 【Observation, Experience】
Kakegawa Castle Ninomaru Tea Room



January 22 【Workshop】 Preparations for the reporting session



January 22 【Reporting Session】
Presentation materials

3. Voices from Participants (excerpt)

◆ Graduate Student (Dominican Republic)

100% satisfied. The staff was really kind and friendly, and knew a lot about the city and its main

issues. Also, all the activities were well organized and assured everybody had the chance to interact with the other participants and listen to their ideas.

◆ **Undergraduate Student (Argentina)**

I really like that we could talk with other Japanese people and international people, I also like that the schedule was not so tight, and we had free time to talk, go around and relax.

◆ **Graduate Student (Brazil)**



I think face to face programs are a really good opportunity to feel how the local culture works and Japan. Additionally, I think it is a moment to make language exchange and practice the Japanese language (for foreign students) and English language (for Japanese students). Furthermore, I really enjoyed visiting Kakegawa City, which is a place that I didn't know about before this program. So, I am really happy that now I learned about it.

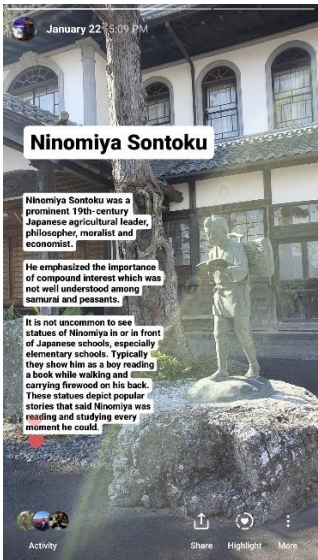

4. Voices from the Receiving Parties (excerpt)

◆ **Cooperating Organization**

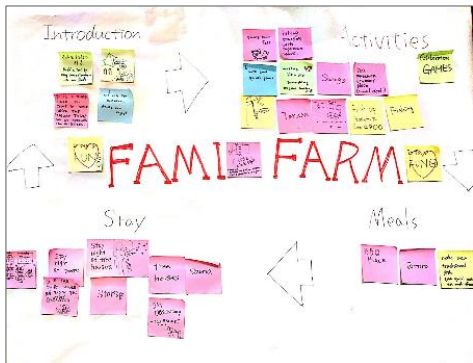
Thank you very much for hosting such an exciting project in Kakegawa City. I feel that this was a fruitful project that will lead to the future of Kakegawa City.

5. Disseminations by the participants

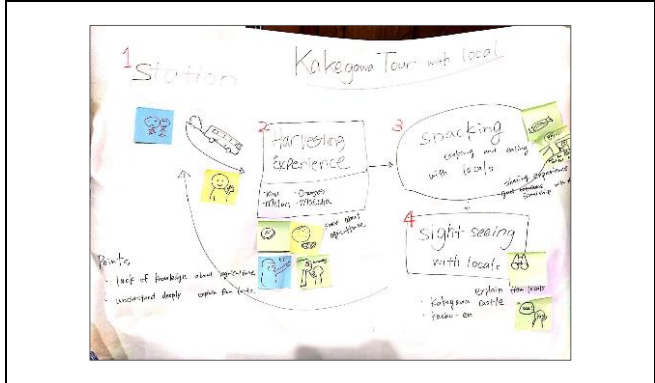
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| <p>January 21, 2023 (Instagram) Argentina</p> <p>Went to kiwi fruit Country, a farm of organic kiwis in Kakegawa that is based on a circular agriculture system as the farm sustains itself through natural water resources nearby, solar panels and the reuse of organic waste such as kiwi peels as food for animals on the farm.</p> | <p>January 22, 2023 (Instagram) Argentina</p> <p>We did a workshop about regional revitalization and came up with our idea of a 3-day experience in Kakegawa!</p> <p>We also got to eat to more kiwi fruits hehe</p> |

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| <p>January 22, 2023 (Instagram)</p> <p>Ninomiya Sontoku was a prominent 19th-century Japanese agricultural leader, philosopher, moralist and economist.</p> <p>He emphasized the importance of compound interest which was not well understood among samurai and peasants.</p> <p>It is not uncommon to see statues of Ninomiya in or in front of Japanese schools, especially elementary schools. Typically, they show him as a boy reading a book while walking and carrying firewood on his back. These statues depict popular stories that said Ninomiya was reading and studying every moment he could.</p> | <p>January 22, 2023 (Instagram)</p> <p>Dominican Republic</p> <p>We were able to come up with and present ideas for the future of Kakegawa City in order to revitalize the area upon considering local resources.</p> <p>In other words, it was a 10-point perfect score experience. Thank you for the opportunity to join the Juntos!! reunion.</p> |

6. Presentation by the participants on inbound business proposals utilizing local resources at the Reporting Session (excerpt)

| Proposal (1) | |
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|  | <p>Fami Farm</p> <p>The target of the farm is families with children. After arriving, they are supposed to prepare for their night stay (set up a tent), then they enjoy a lot of activities, barbeque, and beautiful stars at night.</p> |

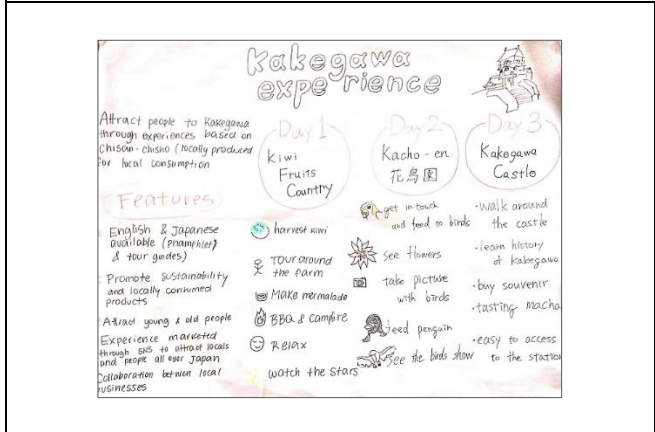
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| Proposal (2) |
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Kakegawa Tour with the Locals

Meet at the station, and enjoy harvesting experience, cooking, eating and sightseeing together. By the interaction between visitors and the locals, the visitors can understand deeply about Kakegawa.

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| Proposal (3) |
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Three-day Kakegawa Experience

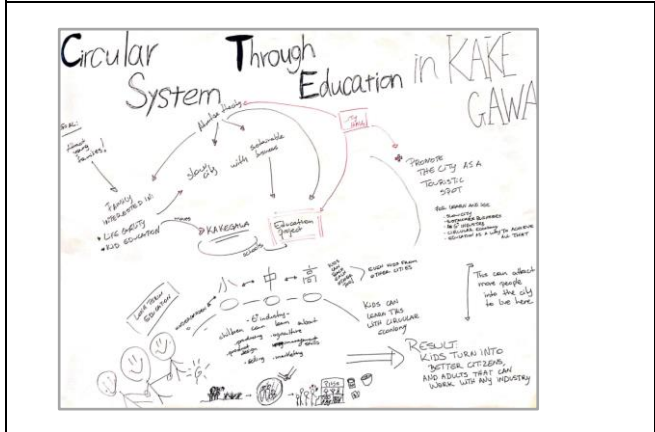
Day 1: Kiwi Fruits Country

Day 2: Kacho-en

Day 3: Kakegawa Castle

Visitors can enjoy a lot of activities in each place. Kakegawa City should prepare English and Japanese brochures and promote unique local products to attract people from all over the world of all generations.

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| Proposal (4) |
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Circular System through Education in Kakegawa

City hall can advertise the city and launch its unique education project, which encourages elementary, junior and senior high schools work together. Through the project, children can learn how to live even when they are very young. Young parents who like such education systems might move to Kakegawa City.

Implementation agency: Japan International Cooperation Center (JICE)