

Juntos!! Japan-Latin America and the Caribbean Exchange Outbound Program

Panama Report

Theme: International maritime transport • international logistics during the post pandemic period

1. Program Overview

Objectives: 120 years will be passed in 2024 since diplomatic relations for Japan and Panama are established. This program was implemented with the aim of contributing to enhance momentum about the exchange year and anniversary year further by visiting the country from Japan and promoting the exchange on this occasion

Participants: Total: 9 Japanese undergraduate students

Location: Panama

2. Program Schedule

Pre-study Program (online)

Monday, January 22 Pre-departure orientation : overview of the program and Exchange Self-introductions

Inbound Program

Thursday, February 15 Arrival at Tocumen International Airport in Panama City

Friday, February 16 Observation: Colon City • AISIN • Duty Free Zone • Colon 2000 Port • Canal Expansion Visitor Center - Aguacalara
Courtesy Call: Reception at Japanese Embassy in Panama

Saturday, February 17 Exchange: UTP Japanese Course Students
Observation: Smithsonian Observatory: Punta Culebra

Sunday, February 18 Observation: Fish Market and Casco Viejo • Panamanian History Museum • Canal History Museum • Museum of the Mola • Old Panama
Exchange: Afternoon with host family

Monday, February 19 Lecture: JICA
Courtesy Call: Youth Group with the Ministry of Social Development

Tuesday, February 20 Lecture & Exchange: Maritime University of Panama
Courtesy Call: Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Wednesday, February 21

Observation: Construction Site for the 3rd Line of the Metro

Courtesy Call: Maritime Authority of Panama

Observation: Miraflores Panama Canal Visitor Center

Lecture: Mr. Kosuke Yoshimoto. President, Nippon Trede Inc.

Thursday, February 22 Reporting Session

Departure from Tocumen International Airport to Haneda Airport

3. Program Photos



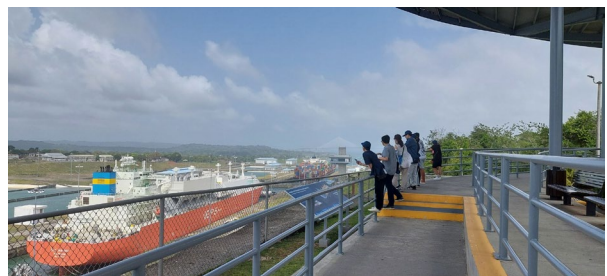
February 16 Observation AISIN



February 16 Observation Colon Duty Free Zone



February 16 Observation: Colon 2000 Port



February 16 Observation: Canal Expansion Visitor Center - Aguacalara



February 17 Exchange: UTP Japanese Course Students



February 17 Observation: Smithsonian Observatory: Punta Culebra



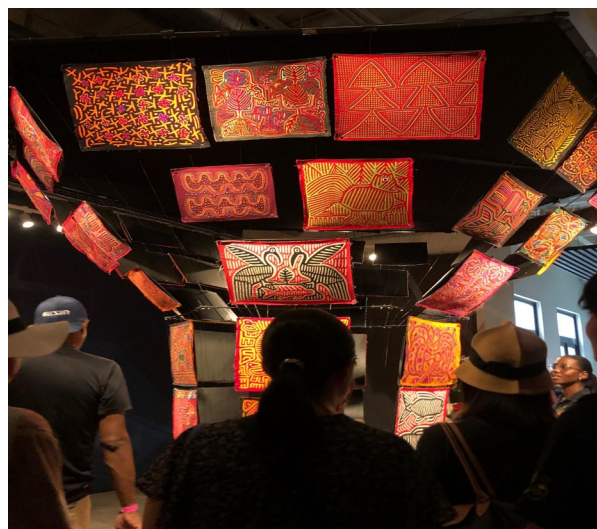
February 18 Observation: Fish Market and Casco Viejo



February 18 Observation: Panamanian History Museum



February 18 Observation: Canal History Museum



February 18 Observation: Museum of the Mola



February 18 Observation: Old Panama



February 18 Exchange: Afternoon with host family



February 19 Lecture: JICA



February 19: Ministry of Social Development



February 20 Exchange: Maritime University of Panama



Courtesy Call: Ministry of Foreign Affairs



Observation: Construction Site for the 3rd Line of the Metro



Courtesy Call: Maritime Authority of Panama



Observation: Miraflores Panama Canal Visitor Center



Lecture: Nippon Trade Inc.

4. Voices from Participants (excerpt)

-Undergraduate Student

I really enjoyed being able to learn more about Panama. The food was always very good and the people were welcoming and warm. I liked that everybody was very open to questions and answered in an honest manner. I particularly enjoyed being able to see the work that JICA is doing and being able to concentrate more on what we can contribute to each other's countries and keep working together.

-Undergraduate student:

I liked learning about Panamanian history and how various countries have contributed and been involved in the Panama Canal and shaping Panama as a country. I thought Panamanians are very proud of their history and explain important and challenging situations of their history with optimism and I really liked that. Also, the way young people are involved in politics and very interested in learning about the past to be able to better shape their future.

-Undergraduate student:

I had a great time spending time with a Panamanian family and learning a little bit about how everyday Panamanians live. I wish we could have been with the host family for the whole day! Even in the little time we got to spend together, they welcomed me like their child and were excited to talk to me and learn from me.

5. Voices from the Receiving Parties (excerpt)





-UTP (Japanese Class Teacher) :

The students were very excited to be able to meet young people from Japan. In the beginners class the students were eager to learn about the Japanese culture and ask questions from the Japanese students. It was an amazing experience for them.

-Ministry of Social Development:

We love having the opportunity to showcase our country to visiting parties and were very glad to be able to open this space for young people from Panama to meet young people from Japan and learn about the Japanese school system.

6. Disseminations by the participants, News reports, etc.

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|  |  <p>February 17, 2024 (Instagram) Exchange UTP Japanese Course Students</p> |
| <p>INTERCAMBIO ACADÉMICO Y CULTURAL PANAMÁ-JAPÓN</p> <p>febrero 23, 2024</p>  <p>Un grupo de estudiantes japoneses del Programa de Intercambio "Juntos Japón-</p> |  <p>February 20, 2024 (web page of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs)</p> |
| <p>February 21, 2024 (Instagram of the Director of Culture at the Panamanian Maritime Authority)</p> | <p>February 21, 2024 (Instagram of the Director of Culture at the Panamanian Maritime Authority)</p> |

7.Action Plans Presented at the Reporting Session (excerpt)

- Visit to the city of Colon: Colon is an important city for commerce and tourism in Panama and an important point of reference for other countries to get their merchandise to and from one place to another.
- Visit to JICA: there are a lot of ways to get involved and help other countries through volunteer work.
- Visit to the Ministry of Social Development: youth is very important for the development of society and they are encouraged to get involved in politics and debate.
- Home Visit: I got to taste different sweets and learn about the culture through different foods.
- Education system: is it very different from the one in Japan and it is difficult to access quality education. People were very eager to learn from the education system in Japan and asked a lot of interesting questions.
- Future activities :
After we return from Panama, we would like to tell people about our experience and all the things we learned and saw. We think it is important to give back to society and engage in different social activities to help those who are less fortunate. A lot of us are really interested in investigating more opportunities to help people abroad and in how we in Japan can help other people in other countries to live better lives through education and advocacy.

Implementation agency: AFS